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**Hariri to visit
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MARJAYOUN (AP) — A roadside bomb killed two men and a woman working for Israel's militia ally, the South Lebanon Army (SLA), Wednesday, security sources reported. They said the ambush bore all the hallmarks of Hezbollah (Party of God), which spearheads a guerrilla war against the Israelis in the border zone they occupy in South Lebanon. The sources said the blast occurred at 3:45 p.m. (1345 GMT) as the three officials, part of the SLA administration which runs the zone's daily affairs, drove through the Beit Yaboun crossing point in the western sector of the Israeli's so-called "security zone."

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'Israeli air force can strike Iran'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel's air force has the capacity to strike as far as targets in Iran, the general tipped to be its next chief said in an interview published Tuesday. "We can punish states which are not necessarily on the borders" of Israel, General Eitan Ben Elihu said in a reference to Iran. He is expected to replace Gen. Herzl Bodinger as air force chief in the coming months. "We already proved it in the past," he said, referring to Israel's bombardment in 1981 of Iraqi nuclear facilities. "And our dissuasion force, our striking force and our endurance levels are being strengthened each day." On Sunday, the Iranian air force chief warned Israel against attacks on nuclear installations in the country and said his force could retaliate with a "stunning blow." Brigadier General Habib Baghai said he did not take "Israeli threats seriously because they are not in a position to make such threats." "They are fully mistaken if they think they have the capability to carry out their threats without reprisal. The air force stands fully prepared to inflict a stunning blow on them." The United States and Israel accuse Iran of trying to develop nuclear weapons, a charge denied by Tehran.

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**Urekat, Billeh
named advisers**

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Talal Urekat has been appointed advisor to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for the Higher Council for Science and Technology affairs. Victor Billeh, a former head of the National Centre for Educational Development, has been named as the Crown Prince's advisor for human resources development and international relations.

**Prices of paper
tissues raised**

AMMAN (Petra) — Prices of second class paper tissues have been raised by between three per cent for small size elastic diapers to 25 per cent for paper tissues of 300 pulls and second class toilet paper. The average increase for paper tissues was approximately 19 per cent. The new prices, which have been approved and announced by the Ministry of Supply, shall take effect as of today, Oct. 4. However, the decision excluded the purchases of the Civil Servants' Consumer Corporation and the Military Consumers' Corporation, whose purchases are subject to direct contracts with the producers.

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جورдан تايمز يومية سياسية مختلطة نصف إنجلزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الرأي

Sudan reports Libyan reprise for workers

KHARTOUM (AP) — Libya has given 300,000 Sudanese until year's end to leave the country, allowing impoverished Sudan more time to prepare for a flood of poor, unemployed workers. Libya had ordered the labourers out by Sept. 30. Sudanese officials said, because they had no work permits. The expulsions may also have been prompted by Libyan suspicions that Sudan's Islamist government was behind recent unrest in eastern Libya. An estimated 450,000 Sudanese reside in Libya, and more than 10,000 have already been expelled. Thousands more were reportedly gathered at an oasis that is the last stop before the border in an exodus that Sudanese officials had predicted would take three months and conclude before the end of the year. Tajeeddin Al Mahdi, the minister for expatriate affairs, said Tuesday that Libya had agreed to give the Sudanese three more months so "they could prepare themselves for returning home." Libya will allow the deportees to take all their goods and that they would receive all money owed to them, he said.

Rabin assured of Knesset 'yes' for self-rule after snag

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assured of parliament's approval of the West Bank autonomy accord when a member of parliament who could have the decisive vote decided to back the deal on Tuesday.

"I will vote in favour of the autonomy accord," said Alex Goldfarb of the small Yesh Atid party, an offshoot of the far-right Tsomet and part of the ruling coalition, after a one-hour meeting with Mr. Rabin.

Parliament meets on Thursday to debate the accord which Mr. Rabin signed with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat seven days earlier in Washington.

"I have reached an agreement with Rabin but I clearly pointed out to him that if the way the peace process continues does not satisfy me, I will stand against the government," said Mr. Goldfarb.

He has been under pressure from the right-wing opposition to vote against the agreement to extend Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank.

Labour has only a narrow majority in the Knesset, or parliament. Mr. Goldfarb's vote could be decisive because two Labour deputies, Avigdor Kahalani and Emmanuel Zissman, have voiced opposition to the deal.

If they cast their votes against Mr. Goldfarb's decision instead, the government would still have a 61-59 majority for the West Bank agreement, unless he changes his mind.

The fate of the Middle East today depends on a certain Alex Goldfarb," said Tsomet leader Raphael Eitan, with more than a hint of irony in his voice, before Mr. Goldfarb's decision was announced.

(Continued on page 7)

Qadhafi to visit expellees today

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel went on security alert Tuesday ahead of a 24-hour slowdown of all activity for the most solemn day in the Jewish religious calendar, Yom Kippur (day of atonement).

From sundown until the same time on Wednesday, cars are banned from the streets, Israel's air space is closed as well as sea ports, and all economic activity in the Jewish state grinds to a halt.

Television and radio also go off the air for 24 hours. Drivers risk having their cars stoned if they venture out, as do smokers.

Out of fear of attack by militants opposed to the peace process, private security firms have been contracted for the first time to protect the busiest synagogues.

The army and police issued a general alert and have kept the Gaza and the West Bank sealed off until at least Sunday. The closure could be extended another two weeks to cover more religious holidays.

Oyal Pressler, adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, called on all Israelis to be on guard for suspect packages. Israeli and Jewish institutions abroad also went on alert.

Observant Jews abstain from food and drink for the whole 24 hours and go to synagogues for prayers of repentence, until ram's horns sound out across the country for the end of the fast and start of a feast.

For children, the empty streets are a once-in-a-year chance to take advantage of empty streets with their bicycles, roller-skates and skateboards, despite criticism from more orthodox Jewish circles.

Since the October 1973 war when Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack on the Yom Kippur, Israel also commemorates its 3,000 dead in the conflict.

Palestinian radio also went off the air on Tuesday for the duration of Yom Kippur.

Palestine Radio, which broadcasts from Jericho on the West Bank, said it would resume on Thursday after "maintenance work."

The station depends on the Israeli communications company Bezeq, which observes the Yom Kippur shutdown.

Palestine Radio, when it was newly-established, also stopped broadcasts last year during Yom Kippur.

Religious Jews approach Yom Kippur with trepidation.

(Continued on page 7)

Palestinian-ruled Gaza and Jericho, where Israel has control over entry.

Libya says the Palestinians have left the country in response to appeals from Col. Qadhafi but the Palestinians say they had to go because they had lost their jobs and their homes.

Col. Qadhafi has said Arab countries should encourage Palestinians to leave, to emphasise the shortcomings of the self-rule agreements between Israel and the Palestinians.

The Libyan embassy in Cairo invited journalists to the news conference in the Misrata area and said it was arranging transport for the 750-km journey.

Travellers said the Libyan

authorities had brought large quantities of food and water to the Palestinian camp, apparently to create a good impression for a Qadhafi visit.

But Libyan security sources said the Libyans had set up a marquee and a podium near Musrata town, well back from the camp where some 400 Palestinians have been waiting for days for clearance to cross into Egypt.

People... are waiting for Qadhafi to come on Wednesday or Thursday to tell them the show is over, that's it's over.

(Continued on page 7)

Turkish tremor deaths rise to 76

ANKARA (Agencies) — The death toll in an earthquake that hit western Turkey at the weekend reached 76 on Tuesday, the state-run television TRT reported.

TRT said another 210 people were injured by Sunday's quake which also destroyed numerous buildings in Dinar town.

Ahmet Isikara, director of Kandilli Earthquake Research Institute in Istanbul, said Tuesday that over 80 milder tremors had shaken Dinar since Sunday evening when the quake, measuring 6.0 on the open-ended Richter scale, hit the town.

Yahya Gur, the governor of Afyon province, told Anatolian news agency several more people were feared trapped under three blocks of flats, where the rescue work was concentrated.

Officials have predicted a final death toll of about 100 from Sunday's quake in the southwestern market town of Dinar, and at least 242 are said to be injured.

Numerous refugees from the shattered city of 35,000 told AFP that the mayor and other government officials had encouraged Dinar residents to remain at home Sunday.

At the very moment Mr. Holbrooke was speaking,

the bodies of those killed in the quake were being buried by their families in graveyards and in around Dinar.

Residents meanwhile lashed out at local authorities for failing to evacuate the town beforehand and failing to provide enough shelter for the victims.

Prosecutor Jamal Zoubi launched his investigation on Sunday and listened to the testimonies of two leading journalists, Tareq Masarweh, who was the first to react to the report unfavourably, and head of the Jordanian Press Association (JPA) Suleiman

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued on page 7)

Crown Prince stresses need to present right image of Jordan at MENA summit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday called at the Prime Ministry where he met with Acting Prime Minister and Education Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, in the presence of Khalid Karaki, deputy prime minister and information minister.

The Regent issued directives on a number of issues of common interest to the people.

Later Prince Hassan chaired a meeting at the Prime Ministry to review preparations for the Middle East and North Africa economic summit, which will be held here on Oct. 29.

Prince Hassan stressed the need to finalise all preparations on time to ensure the success of the conference.

He emphasised the need to present Jordan as an example for democracy, pluralism and respect for human rights, particularly that Jordan is participating in building the post-peace era and enhancing its pivotal role in the region.

Prince Hassan said the conference should stress Jordan's humanitarian vision, noting the importance of fostering consultation and coordination and opening horizons of cooperation and investment among nations to ensure the interests

of the people of the region. The meeting was attended by Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, His Majesty King Hussein's military secretary. Mr. Klein praised Jordan's democratic march and its role in establishing peace in the region. He pledged his country's support for Jordan and expressed its interest in the MENA economic summit. The meeting was attended by First Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Hadi Al Majali and German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reiners.

Earlier Mr. Rawabdeh

Simpson is acquitted

LOS ANGELES (Agencies) — O.J. Simpson was acquitted Tuesday of murdering his ex-wife and her friend, a suspense-filled climax to the courtroom saga that obsessed the nation. With two words, "Not guilty," the jury freed the fallen sports legend to try to rebuild a life thrown into disgrace.

Mr. Simpson was released from jail immediately.

KABC-TV showed footage of Mr. Simpson leaving the jail in a white van. The former football great has been in jail for more than a year. Outside the jail, throngs of supporters lined up to catch a glimpse of Mr. Simpson.

President Bill Clinton said the verdict must be respected, and that Americans' thoughts and prayers should be with the families of the victims of the crime of which Mr. Simpson was acquitted, the White House said.

Sobs could be heard in the courtroom as the verdicts, acquitting Mr. Simpson of both first and second-degree murder, were read. Mr. Simpson hugged his attorney John Cochran Jr.

Mr. Simpson's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, 35,

were pulled, the lucky few cheered.

They came to take their place in history, to experience the verdict of the century.

Mr. Simpson, 48, faced a maximum term of life in prison without parole if he had been convicted of the murders.

But as his trial progressed, it often seemed irrelevant that two young people were slain June night more than a year ago.

The case was not just about murder. It was about fame and wealth, love and hate, fragile egos and misdirected power. It was about the U.S. judicial system, the media, domestic violence, racism, sexism and crass opportunism.

America could not get enough of it.

Orenthal James Simpson made it from a poor neighbourhood in San Francisco to the mansions of Los Angeles' Brentwood section with charm, good looks and a fast pair of feet.

His public life was the object of envy: "glory on the streets."

Stranded Palestinians face a long way home

SALLOUM (AFP) — They all have rings under their eyes, the men are unshaven and the babies cry from fatigue.

The Palestinians expelled from Libya have only finished the first part of their voyage after arriving at the Egyptian border post of Salloum, along the Mediterranean Sea.

They will have to travel another thousand kilometres (600 miles) under police surveillance to reach Rafah, the access point to the Gaza Strip, or Nuweiba on the Red Sea.

From there, they can travel to Aqaba and eventually to the West Bank. The voyage home to the Palestinian self-rule areas is a disjointed, grueling and uncertain one.

"We have spent a day and a night" to get past the Egyptian border, said Talal Awad, part of a group of 61 Palestinians who were eating breakfast at 75 kilometres from Salloum at a restaurant in Sidi Barrani.

Mr. Talal, 32, was a nurse in the Libyan town of Al Marg, near Benghazi. But officials suspended his work contract and he left with his wife and three children. Mr. Talal says he has no idea

what he will do in Gaza.

On the road that follows the coast, minibuses with suitcases strapped to their roofs head east. Mr. Talal looked at them a moment and smiled.

"To think I named my son Aed (return), to show my desire to return to my country," he said.

Libya appears to have launched Saturday a massive operation to expel the 30,000 Palestinian residing within its borders, setting up a large camp along the Egyptian border to house those who do not have valid travel documents.

More than 300 were trapped in the no man's land along the border, and another 500 were due on Tuesday, Egyptian border officials said.

Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has ordered the expulsion of all Palestinians to show up what he says is the failure of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) self-rule accord to create a viable Palestinian homeland.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees estimates that between 5,000 and 10,000 Palestinians have already left Libya over the past four months.

Israeli permits to reside in the autonomous areas.

Mr. Talal said he had to bribe the Egyptian border officials to pass through. The minibus taking him to Rafah with another family is costing him more than \$600, an extravagant price.

"We have two (Palestinian) police officers with us and they are guarding our passports," Mr. Talal said.

Even for those expelled Palestinians who hold valid travel documents, the formalities are lengthy because who end up falling asleep because of the wait. In the hallways, women with children clutching their dresses plead with officials.

One of the policeman with Mr. Talal asks him to pay for his breakfast. Mr. Talal protests but then proposes that the cost be shared with the other Palestinians. "They told me to leave (Libya) without giving me any money," one of the Palestinian police-man said.

Egypt only allows the Palestinians to transit its territory. Border officials scrupulously examine their documents, denying entry to those who do not have valid



Four-year-old Palestinian Randa Samy gives a victory sign after her family got permission from Israel to return home through Egypt to the West Bank after being expelled from Libya (AFP photo)

Rabbani forces claim control of centre of northern region

KABUL (AFP) — Forces loyal to Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani have captured a strategic city in northern Jawzjan province, the Defence Ministry spokesman here claimed Tuesday.

"Sangcharak fell to our forces Monday. The whole district is now under state control," the ministry said.

No independent confirmation of the claim was available.

The district centre is linked by road to Sheberghan, the capital of Jawzjan province. United Nations peace envoy Mahmoud Mestiri was reportedly in Sheberghan Monday to negotiate a ceasefire between troops of Uzbek General Abdul Rashid Dostum and pro-Rabbani forces.

On Monday, a spokesman for Gen. Dostum in Pakistan, Sibghatullah Zaki, ruled out a ceasefire with Mr. Rabbani until the president resigned.

In a written statement, the Defence Ministry here said its commander in Sangcharak, Abdul Rahim Ayobi, had reported the capture of "25 heavy weapons of different types, two tanks and several

ammunition depots."

The Defence Ministry claims that pro-Rabbani forces in Sangcharak are now linked by road with their allies in neighbouring Balkh and Samangan provinces, allowing the free passage of supplies and reinforcements.

The reported pro-Rabbani successes in northern Afghanistan follow a string of defeats in the west, where the provinces of Herat, Farah and Nimroz recently fell to the Taliban movement.

Meanwhile, fighting continued between pro-Rabbani forces and the Taliban west of Kabul in the Sanglakh Valley.

The Defence Ministry claimed that in a "sudden ambush" against a Taliban BM-1 rocket launcher site in Sanglakh its troops had killed an army officer of Pakistani nationality, and recovered incriminating documents from his corpse.

In the past month, the Kabul government has repeatedly accused Pakistan of militarily assisting the Taliban, while Pakistan has ac-

cused Mr. Rabbani of receiving support from India. Both sides deny the other's charges.

The Afghan capital has not yet come under direct attack by the Taliban who have repeatedly threatened to target it.

The Kabul government also said Tuesday a Pakistani officer was killed during a government ambush on opposition-held territory west of Kabul.

"In this ambush a Pakistani officer has also been killed," said the defence ministry's spokesman, who goes only by the name Abdullah.

Pakistani leaders dismissed the claim and insist they are impartial observers to Afghanistan's long-running civil war.

"It's patently absurd," Foreign Office spokesman Hanif Gul told the Associated Press in the Pakistani capital Islamabad. "It's so visibly a fabrication it's not even worth commenting upon."

The factions, with a history of rivalry going back to the 1960s, agreed to a ceasefire and exchange of prisoners at a first round of talks in Ireland in August.

Kurdish leaders hold talks in Tehran

TEHRAN (R) — The leader of two rival Iraqi Kurdish groups are holding talks in Tehran to solve their disputes, an Iranian official was quoted on Tuesday as saying.

The Kurdish leaders were in Iran to "bridge the existing gap between them on control of northern Iraq. They both want peace and stability," Ali Khorram, advisor to the Iranian Foreign Minister, was quoted by Iran News daily as saying.

Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) leader Massoud Barzani and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) head Jalal Talabani started their talks on Saturday. Mr. Khorram said.

The current negotiations have been arranged (by Iran) on the request of the two rival faction leaders," Mr. Khorram added.

The two groups failed to reach agreement in U.S.-brokered talks in Ireland last month on the demilitarisation of the city of Erbil, held by the PUK, and the collection of border oil levies, controlled by the KDP.

Iran was critical of U.S. mediation in the conflict, saying regional conflicts should be solved without outside interference.

The factions, with a history of rivalry going back to the 1960s, agreed to a ceasefire and exchange of prisoners at a first round of talks in Ireland in August.

Leaders of the main opposition party, Likud, suspect their traditional supporters, who tend to be respect-

Peres says peace and democracy are behind economic development

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, calling the Middle East peace process a "revolution," made an impassioned plea Monday for talks to move forward so all in the region could benefit economically from peace.

"We must not stop in the middle," Mr. Peres said, addressing the 50th annual debate of the U.N. General Assembly. "It cannot be, it cannot remain, a peace between leaders. It must become a peace for people."

The development of democracy and freedom is the engine that will raise living standards throughout the Middle East, he said, pointing to examples of Asian and Latin American nations who have instituted democratic reforms.

Mr. Peres was in the United States for last week's signing of an accord in Washington that expands Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank.

"Economic success has nothing to do with geographic location or the colour of your skin: Make the right choice," he told other world leaders.

"Poverty and oppression is homemade, not imposed by others. The choice is for every country to become free, prosperous and democratic," he added.

He chided Syria and Lebanon for the slow pace of their talks with Israel, and said peace discussion should occur "on all levels, embracing all issues," not just security concerns.

Likud leaders planned a more conventional mass rally in Jerusalem this Thursday, just as parliament is to vote on the West Bank accord.

But while some right-wing politicians still speak of a Palestinian state in apocalyptic terms, Likud head Benjamin Netanyahu refuses to say he would repeat the autonomy accords. Aides hint they might accept Palestinian rule on some of the West Bank if other areas

ful of authority, recoil from the sight of soldiers dragging protesters off hilltops and scuffles with police.

They note that most polls nonetheless show the opposition stands an even chance of unseating Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in election scheduled for November 1996.

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But while some right-wing politicians still speak of a Palestinian state in apocalyptic terms, Likud head Benjamin Netanyahu refuses to say he would repeat the autonomy accords. Aides hint they might accept Palestinian rule on some of the West Bank if other areas

could be salvaged.

Future Likud rallies reportedly will focus on land even Mr. Rabin wants to keep as part of a future final peace deal, such as the Jordan River Valley and areas around Jerusalem.

Eve Harow, an activist in the Efrat settlement just south of Jerusalem, said many people have concluded the government is ignoring demonstrations and therefore intend to "just wait it out until the next elections."

"Just because there aren't hundreds of thousands of people in the street doesn't mean there aren't hundreds of thousands, even millions of angry people," said Mr. Harow, 34, a Los Angeles native who immigrated to Israel in 1987.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Far-right puts death curse on Rabin

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli far-right activists have put an Aramaic death curse on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for trying to make peace with the Palestinians. Haaretz newspaper reported Tuesday, around 30 supporters of the outlawed anti-Arab group Kach prayed for Mr. Rabin's death outside his residence on Monday night, as rabbi Yosef Dayan read out the curse called "pulsa denura" (rod of fire) in Aramaic. "May Yitzhak, son of Rosa, perish by fire and the sword... for his sins," the prayer said in the ancient tongue. "May the good be possessed in this world be taken away. Let him perish for the evil he is inflicting on the sacred people, for the lands of Greater Israel that he is surrendering to our enemies... May all maledictions befall him until his death." Israel's grand rabbi, Israel Meir Lau, protested against such a curse on the head of government, especially on the eve of Yom Kippur (day of atonement), the most sacred day in the Jewish calendar.

Rabin's wife sends gift to baby Arafat

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Leah Rabin, wife of the Israeli prime minister, has sent a dove-shaped silver ornament as a peace gift for Yasser Arafat's baby girl, Zahwa. The Jerusalem Post newspaper reported Tuesday that Yitzhak Rabin's wife handed the present to mother Suha Arafat at the White House when they met at the signing of the West Bank accord last week. "May your baby always be cradled with peace," was the inscription on the ornament for Zahwa's crib.

S. Korea to send aid to Iraq

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea will send \$70,000 worth of medical supplies to Iraq as humanitarian assistance this month and is preparing to resume trade and investment ties with Baghdad as soon as U.N. sanctions are lifted, the Foreign Ministry said here Tuesday. A ministry spokesman told AFP that Seoul had obtained the approval of the U.N. Sanctions Committee for the shipment of "medical supplies and daily necessities" two weeks ago, and that they would be sent within the month. In New York, South Korean Foreign Minister Gong Ro-Myoung held talks Monday with his Iraqi counterpart, Mohammad Al Sahaf, on the resumption of trade and investment between the two countries as soon as the U.N. sanctions are lifted, Yonhap news agency said. Iraq owes South Korean contractors some \$1.35 billion in outstanding construction and import payment debts and Seoul is anxious to recoup the money as soon as possible, Yonhap quoted a spokesman for Mr. Gong as saying. The humanitarian aid is the first of its kind from South Korea since the outbreak of the Gulf war in 1990.

UAE creates team to battle drugs use

DUBAI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates has created a ministerial action committee to try to fight the growing traffic and use of drugs in this Gulf country, newspapers reported on Tuesday. The team includes the ministers of the interior, Islamic affairs, the economy, justice, health and youth, as well as military leaders, and aims to "mobilise efforts to fight against the threat of drugs," the press reported. The UAE brought in the death penalty for drug smuggling in April amid mounting concern that the country was becoming a transit point for narcotics from the likes of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Police have seized more than eight tonnes of hashish, cocaine, heroin and opium in the UAE in the past three years and say drug use is spreading to the local population as well as expatriates. They say the emirate attracts drug traffickers because it is close to drug-producing countries and its 500 kilometres (310 miles) of coastline are difficult to guard.

Libya, Philippines to discuss insurgency

MANILA (AP) — Philippine and Libyan officials this week will discuss progress in two-year-old peace talks between Manila and Muslim secessionist rebels, a senior Filipino official said Monday. The two sides also will discuss other bilateral issues such as the deployment of Filipino workers to Libya, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Libya, an influential member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), hosted peace talks between the government of the late President Ferdinand Marcos and the Moro National Liberation Front, the main Muslim secessionist faction fighting for Muslim self-rule in the southern Philippines. The talks led to the 1976 Tripoli agreement that called for the establishment of an autonomous Muslim region. The rebels, however, accused the Marcos government of renegeing on the agreement and resumed fighting until the strongman was ousted in February 1986. Sporadic fighting continued until 1992 when Indonesia, Libya and other leading OIC members helped bring the rebels and the Manila government under President Fidel Ramos back to the negotiating table. Formal talks, hosted by Jakarta, began in 1993. The talks, however, have bogged down on the question of the manner of establishing a provisional regional government.

Three killed in Mogadishu fighting

MOGADISHU (AFP) — Three people were killed and seven others wounded when supporters of two Somali warlords clashed in south Mogadishu late Monday, witnesses said Tuesday. Militiamen loyal to General Mohammad Farah Aideed and those supporting his rival Osman Ali Hassan "Ayro" traded machine-gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades after a quarrel over the legitimacy of Gen. Aideed's self-declared government, which has been denounced by Mr. Osman Ayo. A radio station supporting Mr. Osman Ayo quoted a spokesman as saying Gen. Aideed militiamen launched the attack on positions held by ADL loyalists, but that the offensive had been repulsed. The fighting lasted half-an-hour.

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 ... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK) 23:20 ... Beirui, London (BA) 10:30 ... Cairo (MS) 03:00 ... Athens (OA)

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Arr. Amman ... 10:00 p.m. every Monday
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Arr. Amman ... 3:00 p.m. every Sunday

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Shimeisani	320p/270p
Shimeisani Hospital	669/513
University Hospital	648/545
Al-Musheer Hospital	667/275/7
The Islamic Abdali	661/275/7
Al-Ahli Abdali	661/164/6
Italian Al-Muhajireen	771/101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafi	751/111/26
Army Marka	741/111/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602/24/20
Ahmad Hospital	671/45
Armenian Orthodox Church	661/191/2
Firdous pharmacy	77/63/6
Complaints	99/74/6
Amman Municipal	751/67/2
Yousef Al Faqih	769/114
Dr. Mazen Nahl	130/135
Dr. Ahed Rahim Musafa	744/46/1
Fins pharmacy	661/91/2
Ferdous pharmacy	62/110/1
Repair	10/12/1
Central Amman Telephone	01/02/20
Zarga Govt. Hospital	09/90/33/23
Zarga National Hospital	(01) 910/15/61
Ibn Sina Hospital	(01) 984/67/32
Al Hilmi Modern Hospital	(01) 990/09/90
IRBD:	
Princess Bassma Hospital	(01) 523/55/55
Greek Catholic Hospital	(01)

Home News

Jordan Times, Wednesday, October 4, 1995

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Police investigating death of schoolboy Ministry official says conflicting testimonies have been received

By Rana Husseini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Authorities are still investigating the case of 15-year-old Ala' Mufidah, a student at Kuteiba School in Hashemi Shamali, who was killed Sept. 25 during school break, informed sources said.

"At this time we cannot release any details concerning the incident until autopsy results arrive," a source at the Ministry of Education told the Jordan Times.

There were conflicting reports concerning the killing: An incident which shocked the local community.

According to sources, Ala', a 10th grader, and one of 1,100 students at the school, left his class for recess outdoors at approximately 10:25 a.m. By 10:30 a.m., Ala' was being rushed to Al Bashir Hospital but died on the way.

No teachers were in the schoolyard when the incident occurred, according to student witnesses.

The Ministry of Education official explained the absence of any teachers at the time, saying that the teachers are required to stay in the classrooms until all their students have left for recess.

"It was during these few moments that Ala' was

attacked," the official said.

According to the victim's schoolmates, Ala' was assaulted by a group of 12th grade students.

One schoolmate said that the students stomped on Ala's stomach, "then one student struck him in the back of the neck with a glass bottle."

He said that Ala' was probably beaten up because he and some of his friends went and complained to school administrators that 12th graders were smoking at school.

Another student told the Jordan Times that the 12th graders may have beaten up Ala' because of old feuds. He would not elaborate on the matter.

"We have not yet reached a conclusion about what really happened that day at school," the Ministry of Education official told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

According to relatives, Ala's father died four years ago in Kuwait, and the boy lived with his mother in Hashemi Shamali.

According to Mr. Mufidah and other confirmed sources, police are holding two suspects in connection with the incident. Witnesses are also still being questioned.

Police contacted by the Jordan Times Tuesday would only confirm the death of the boy but declined to release any further details saying they were investigating the incident.

"Authorities have been

completely silent over the incident, and we have not received any information,

\$10.6m construction project to upgrade Al Samra wastewater treatment plant

By Ramadan Rawashdeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Water and Irrigation Saleh Isheidat and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Wesley Egan Tuesday attended a ground-breaking ceremony for the construction project to upgrade facilities at the Al Samra Wastewater Treatment Plant (AWTP).

The project, which will cost \$10.6 million, is to be implemented with a U.S. grant of \$9 million and the balance, \$1.6 million, is expected to be paid by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

The project is designed to raise the efficiency of the treatment plant to improve its quality and to minimise odours from the plant through the construction of

additional anaerobic ponds and odour collection treatment facilities.

The programme includes a separate activity to minimise industrial pollution at its source, which will automatically reduce the amount of pollutants reaching Al Samra plant.

This activity is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Amman Chamber of Industry, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and several private sector industries located at the Zarqa River Basin.

Speaking at the site, Dr. Isheidat voiced appreciation of the American assistance noting that the project will have a very positive impact on the regions surrounding the plant which is

in dire need of upgrading.

Mr. Egan said that the project is of vital importance to help safeguard water resources and that the treated water should be recycled and used in irrigation and for industrial processes. Recycling will save much of the valuable fresh water used currently in irrigation systems.

Mr. Egan said the treatment of wastewater will help protect the environment and underground water resources and the atmosphere.

The plant, which was

built in 1985, was designed to process 68,000 cubic metres of wastewater a day but has been processing 170,000 cubic metres a day.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Queen receives rare photograph

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday attended a reception in her honour hosted by British Member of Parliament Emma Nicholson at the House of Commons, a Royal Court statement said Tuesday. Queen Noor was presented with an unpublished photograph of the late King Abdullah from the photographic archives of the Palestinian Exploration Fund, the statement said. The chairman of the fund, Stephen Day, described King Abdullah as "one of the great figures who formed the modern Middle East."

Muta meeting reviews university roles

MUTA (Petra) — The Higher Council of Education Tuesday discussed issues on admission at universities, general and private accreditation of universities and the formation of a committee grouping representatives of both the state and private sector universities to prepare a working paper on the role of universities in training cadres. The meeting, which was held at Muta University was attended by Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad, the King's cultural advisor.

Slight rise in temperature expected

AMMAN (J.T.) — The country will continue to be affected by a cold air mass, which started affecting the country Monday, according to meteorology department sources. The sources said a gradual rise in temperatures is expected Wednesday with temperatures reaching 23°C, but temperatures will still be 5-6 degrees lower than the average temperature for this season.

Petra visitors pay JD 406,850 in entry fees

PETRA — The Department of Antiquities last month collected JD 406,850 in admission fees from 22,650 people who visited the ancient Nabatean city in September, according to Suleiman Farajat, director of the Petra Antiquities Department. Mr. Farajat said the figure includes 19,550 foreign tourists and 3,100 Jordanians.

Private sector committee says swift action required to succeed at MENA

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordanian private sector Tuesday agreed that swift action was necessary to be optimally prepared for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit to be held in Amman at the end of this month and attempted to decide on joint strategies to achieve common goals.

Participants and organizers of the fourth and last roundtable meeting of the Private Sector Executive Committee (PSEC) identified a number of factors which they said had to be secured to ensure successful private sector participation in the summit.

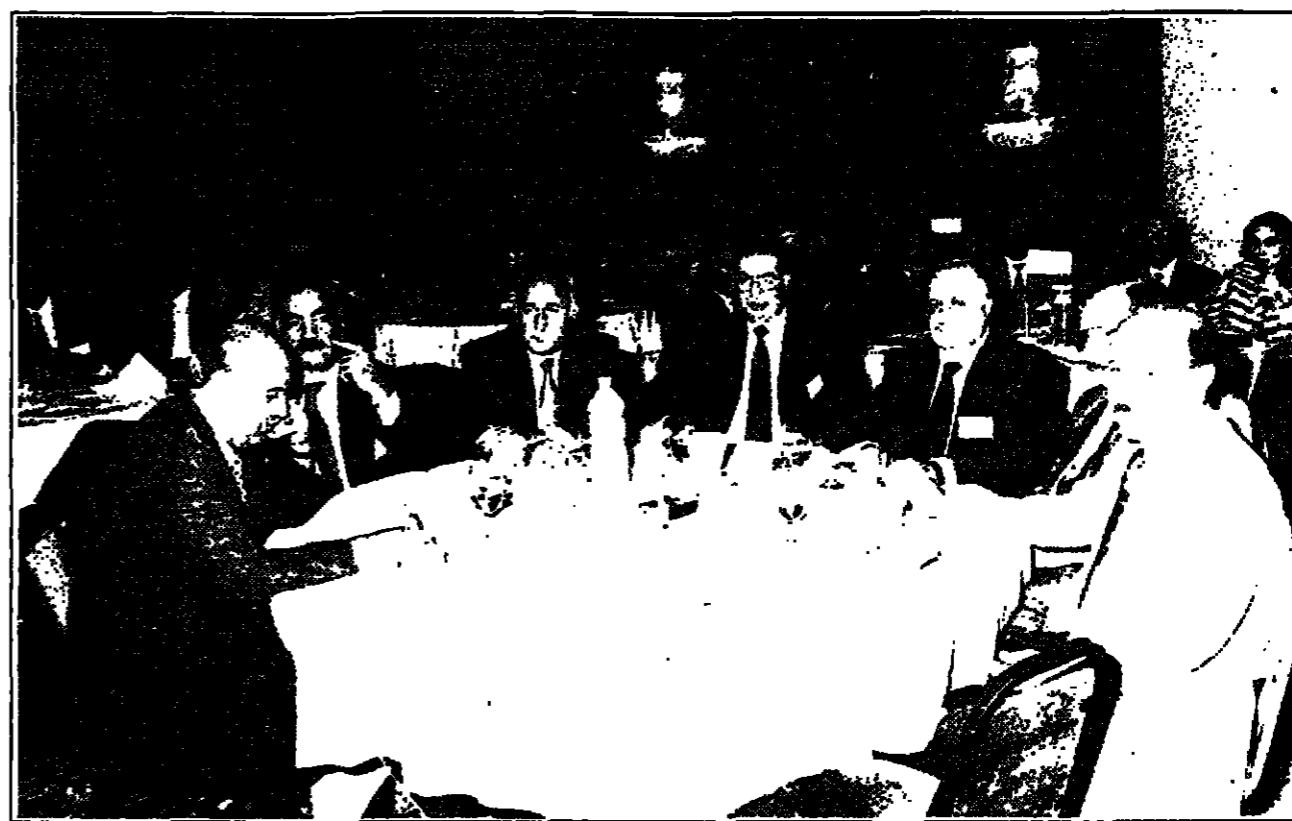
Better coordination between the public and the private sector ranked high on the list of issues which need to be resolved prior to the start of the conference on Sept. 29.

According to Mr. Thabit Taher, President of the PSEC, a meeting between representatives of the public sector and the private sector must be arranged soon to coordinate efforts.

It was also pointed out that the Jordanian government must speed up moves to appoint a delegation to the conference.

"The countdown for the conference has started, and Jordan has still not agreed on the composition of the committee which will represent Jordan at the conference," complained one of the participants.

Talib Rifa'i, Director of the Trade Centre at the Jordanian Embassy in Washington, said that the appointment of the delegation had been delayed so far to ensure optimal and comprehensive composition



Private Sector Executive Committee President Thabit Taher (second left) Tuesday presides over the final round-table meeting of the panel in preparation for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit later this month (Petra photo)

representing all sectors.

Dr. Shabib Ammari, rapporteur of the PSEC, listed a series of six private sector objectives for the MENA conference: to introduce investment opportunities in Jordan to the largest number of conference participants; to present in the form of project profiles, 136 private sector projects; to create channels of communication with the largest number of participants, including individuals, business representatives, consultants and international agencies and organizations; to highlight success stories in the Jordanian economy of the 10 most successful private companies in the country; to pursue the objective of improving Jordan's image abroad; and to create mechanisms for successful follow-up of the conference to ensure the implementation of projects.

which give the Jordanian economy a relative advantage in certain sectors over other countries in the region; to highlight factors which attract foreign investment such as investment-friendly legislation, political pluralism, good infrastructure and high levels of education; to highlight success stories in the Jordanian economy of the 10 most successful private companies in the country; to pursue the objective of improving Jordan's image abroad; and to create mechanisms for successful follow-up of the conference to ensure the implementation of projects.

The 136 projects form the essence of the Jordan's private sector participation in the conference.

The projects are within the areas of industry, agriculture, tourism, services, transportation, medical services, human resource development, construction, finance and investment, trade and telecommunications. Information on the projects will eventually be available in book-form, Dr. Rifa'i said.

Full information on all Jordanian companies participating in the conference will be available in the Jordanian private sector information center to be set up in

a tent, Dr. Taher said. Information will be stored on a CD-Rom system.

Dr. Taher suggested that a list of participants in the conference, which is updated daily, be distributed among participants prior to the conference to give interested parties the chance to contact potential business partners prior to the meeting in Amman where time will be limited.

The PSEC panel chairing the round-table meeting expressed its gratitude to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for its cooperation with the PSEC in the preparations for the summit.

Mother arrested in connection with murder of 5-year-old

By Rana Husseini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Irbid police Tuesday arrested a woman in connection with the murder of her five-year-old child at their home in Al Huson town, according to confirmed sources.

Rabab Awad's body was found at around 11:00 p.m. in the rooftop water tank of her house in Shahid Azmi Mifti area, police told the Jordan Times.

The source said the mother confessed to killing the child and added that authorities have also questioned Rabab's father.

Authorities also retrieved the body of a 22-year-old Egyptian national whose body was found under a pile of vegetation in Al Sama'a area, the sources said.

One source told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the body of Jamal Abu Zeinab was apparently dragged 100 metres to the site where it was found.

According to the source, preliminary investigations indicated that the victim received one blow to the head with an iron bar "which possibly caused his death."

Police declined to release details and said they were investigating the two incidents.

10-year-old child killed

Meanwhile, in Ghor Safi, police are investigating two separate murders, one concerning a 10-year-old child and the other a 22-year-old man.

In the first incident, a 10-year-old boy, reported missing from the Safi area since Sept. 29, was found murdered, according to

Jordanian team heads for Afro-Arab dialogue in Pretoria

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-member Jordanian delegation led by Minister of Culture Samir Habashneh Tuesday left for Pretoria, South Africa to take part in an Afro-Arab dialogue session organized by the Arab League and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The source added that preliminary examination of the child's body indicated that he might have been strangled to death and that there were signs that the child might have been sodomized.

Authorities also retrieved the body of a 22-year-old Egyptian national whose body was found under a pile of vegetation in Al Sama'a area, the sources said.

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Samir Habashneh

South African cultural cooperation.

Referring to the dialogue which opens on Thursday and lasts until Oct. 21, the

minister said he will deliver Jordan's address at the opening session and will submit two working papers outlining Jordan's policy related to cultural cooperation with African countries and the general cultural environment of the Kingdom.

Mr. Habashneh said he will take part in a meeting of the steering committee of the International Parliamentary Union on development and population. That meeting will take place in Cairo after the Pretoria dialogue.

He said he will also hold talks with the Egyptian Minister of Culture on bilateral cultural relations.

Heads of local councils seek to lure investment to meet municipal needs

AMMAN (Petra) — A recommendation passed by heads of local councils at the end of a two-day meeting on the services of municipal councils held in Amman called for promoting investments in income-generating schemes to ensure sufficient finances to meet residents' needs.

Participants at the meeting called for amendments to the CVDB regulations that would facilitate investments in cooperation with the private sector and allow heads of local councils to become members of the bank's board.

The participants demanded that local councils be assisted by the ministry to set up joint public gardens

and sports facilities and garbage dumps.

They also recommended that the ministry establish a central data bank to provide information about municipalities in order to help decision makers take appropriate steps and urged the ministry to hold annual training seminars for the council staff on technical matters, administrative issues and managing expenses.

Jordanian delegation returns from Habitat meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Housing and Urban Development Department Yousef Hiyasat and the Jordanian delegation accompanying him Tuesday returned home from Morocco after attending the 3rd Arab preparatory meeting for the 2nd United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat) which concluded in Rabat Monday. In an arrival statement Dr. Hiyasat said the meeting approved the Arab declaration for developing human settlements, in preparation for submitting it to the 13th session of the Council of Arab ministers of Housing and Reconstruction for endorsement. He said that participants crystallized a unified Arab stand which will serve as an entry point for dealing with the international declaration of principles and plan of action to be adopted at the forthcoming UN conference.

WHAT'S GOING ON

LITERATURE CAFE

"Literature Cafe"—a gathering to relate La Fontaine's stories of oriental roots (In Arabic and French).

FILM

* "Dr. No" at the British Council at 7:00 pm.

LECTURE

* "A Journey to Damascus" (in Arabic) by Architect Jamal Al Juqqa at Darat Al Funun at 6:00pm.

EXHIBITIONS

"Photography exhibition "Islam in Spain" at Instituto Cervantes.

* Abstract art by the Syrian artist Mohammad Daghestani at the Phoenix Gallery.

* Jordanian-Syrian-Turkish products at King Abdullah Gardens, Al Bassam Hall.

Sri Lanka rebels reportedly suffer major defeat; death toll hits 350

COLOMBO (AFP) — Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger guerrillas suffered a major setback Tuesday as the armed forces reported killing more than 230 rebels in fierce fighting, bringing the combined death toll from a two-day-old army offensive to at least 350.

The rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) used suicide bombers in a bid to halt a military advance in their Jaffna peninsula stronghold but were pulverised by artillery and infantry, defence officials said.

Military spokesman Sarah Munasinghe said some 1,000 LTTE men and women were sent into Atchchuvelli, an area that had been captured from the guerrillas Monday, and a ferocious four-hour battle ensued that at times saw hand-to-hand combat.

"We are certain that we killed over 200 Tigers. We have so far recovered 144 bodies, of both men and women Tigers. We found a lot of automatic rifles and mortars," Brig. Munasinghe said, adding: "This is a major debacle for the terror-

ists."

The Tigers also suffered about 250 cadres wounded in action while army losses were put at nine soldiers killed and another 19 wounded. Fighting had died down by Tuesday afternoon and troops took position in newly captured areas.

Western diplomats and defence analysts here said that the losses were a serious blow to the Tamil Tigers who had earlier vowed to beat off any military advance inside Jaffna, the capital of a de facto state run by the rebels.

The losses were an especially hard blow, given that the Tiger offensive was led by the LTTE's deputy leader, Balraj, and a key local commander, Swarnam, defence sources said.

Shortly before taking on the ground troops, the LTTE deployed suicide bombers to ram an explosives-laden boat against a navy landing craft ferrying troops from the battle front back to their homes outside the war zone.

A military statement said 15 soldiers and three sailors aboard the landing craft, the

Ranagaja, were killed and another 40 wounded in the fierce two-hour battle, which took place off the northeastern Mullaitivu coast early Tuesday.

The navy sank seven Tiger boats and claimed killing at least 30 LTTE guerrillas from its Sea Tiger unit. It gave the names of five LTTE suicide bombers known as Black Sea Tigers who perished in the confrontation.

Defence sources said that the LTTE had also fired rocket-propelled grenades at the navy craft.

Brig. Munasinghe said they expected the Tigers to retaliate following the army's operation, code-named "Thunder Strike," which was launched inside the peninsula Sunday with the deployment of 7,500 infantrymen.

On Monday, 19 soldiers were lost for the claimed killing of 51 Tiger cadres. The death toll in two days of fighting is 346, according to the military, added to which are six civilian dead, reported by the Tigers.

Tuesday's setback for the Tigers was reminiscent of a

debacle they suffered on July 28 when they tried to overrun an army complex in northeastern Sri Lanka, at Weli Oya.

In that battle, the LTTE lost some 430 cadres. The army lost only two soldiers and one of them was killed in "friendly fire."

In another confrontation in the eastern Tikkadai area, Police Special Task Force commandos and the Tigers exchanged fire, leaving three commandos and six rebels killed, the military said in a separate statement Tuesday.

For its part, the LTTE's clandestine radio was silent about the latest bloodletting but said that 50,000 civilians had fled their homes. Earlier the LTTE had said that 5,000 people were left homeless.

The Tigers are leading a campaign for a homeland for minority Tamils concentrated in the northern and eastern regions. More than 50,000 people have died in the conflict, which has dragged on since 1972.

Police find enough cyanide to kill 70,000 at Japan cult hideout

TOKYO (AFP) — Police said Tuesday they had found enough sodium cyanide in the suspected hideout of an Aum Supreme Truth member to kill 70,000 people, adding there was a danger of attacks by 10 fugitive members.

A camper found 17 bottles containing 8.5 kilograms (18.7 pounds) of cyanide on Sept. 28 near a tent in a mountainous area of Tochigi prefecture, north of Tokyo, a police spokesman said.

The bottles, only half of which had caps, were close to camping equipment, sweaters and food.

Satoru Hirata, 30, a member of the doomsday sect's "intelligence unit," is believed to have hidden at the camp. Police want to question him about the death of a Tokyo notary.

Sodium cyanide was found in devices intended to generate cyanide gas at a Tokyo subway station in May and at a train station in July. Police have attributed both attacks to Aum, saying as many as 25,000 people could have been killed if the

devices had worked as planned.

Sect members, including leader Shoko Asahara, are also charged with murder and attempted murder in the March 20 sarin nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway which killed 11 people and injured more than 5,000.

Police said the latest find indicates Aum members might still have toxic substances that could be used in further terrorist attacks.

Ten senior Aum members are still at large, and some are suspected of possessing toxic chemicals, including nerve gas.

Mr. Hirata and Sayuri Matsumoto, an Aum member believed to be behind the Tokyo train station cyanide incident in July, are believed to have hidden in the area where the cyanide cache was found for about a month. Police said they kept in touch with other Aum members with a pager and a cellular phone.

Meanwhile, the central government is expected soon to make a final decision whether to approve a move to outlaw the cult, including members of his Socialist Party, say any change in the law governing religious activities may affect all religious groups.

Kohl: East Germans making progress

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Tuesday that German unification was solving the material problems faced in the east but getting Germans from east and west to know each other was still a challenge.

In a televised address on German Unity Day, Mr. Kohl said eastern Germany had made considerable economic progress since it merged with the west on Oct. 3, 1990.

The chancellor also noted Germany had been at peace with its neighbours for 50 years and pledged it would do everything to make sure its relations stayed that way.

"Nowhere else in Europe is economic growth as strong as in eastern Germany," he said. Annual growth there, buoyed by massive transfer payments from the west, is about nine per cent.

Other countries in

Eastern Europe have to struggle with far larger problems," he said, according to an advance text of the address.

"With hard work and confidence, we will master the economic and social problems in the foreseeable future," he said.

"In the long run, (improving) personal contacts among Germans are the bigger task for all of us. Here we need patience, good will and the readiness to listen to each other."

Mr. Kohl said he took seriously the concerns of people who were disappointed with the way united Germany had turned out.

"People in the east experienced dramatic changes in all facets of their lives in a very short time," he said. "Rebuilding the east remains our most important domestic task."

Mr. Kohl also paid a com-

pliment to the East German civil rights movement, which helped open the Berlin Wall in November 1989 but was then swept aside as Western-dominated parties quickly came to dominate the political scene.

"I would especially like to recall those men and women who bravely stood up to the Communist regime," he said. "Their example should encourage us to be more responsible with our mutual freedom."

Speaking about Germany's relations abroad, the chancellor said: "We Germans enjoy friendship and respect in the world community. We have lived in peace with our neighbours in Europe for 50 years. We will do everything in our power to make sure it stays that way in future."

Civil Aviation Department spokesman Albert Lam said the airport may have to remain open beyond its normal midnight (1600 GMT) curfew to cope with a backlog of about 25 flights, many delayed from Monday.

Hong Kong's dwindling fishing community, who took shelter behind breakwaters designed to protect them from typhoons, spent the afternoon bailing out their junks and trawlers but said they did not expect to venture out to sea for a day or two.

The eight were murdered by an unknown number of attackers armed with grenades, iron bars, hammers and knives.

killed the children but had done nothing about it.

In another development Rwandan Radio said four people had been arrested in Kibungo district in the southeast in connection with the deaths last Thursday of eight members of the same family in Rusumo village.

The eight were murdered by an unknown number of attackers armed with grenades, iron bars, hammers and knives.

Typhoon Sibyl buffets Hong Kong

HONG KONG (R) — Typhoon Sibyl buffeted Hong Kong for several hours Tuesday before roaring off to attack the southern coast of China.

The tropical cyclone, which left a trail of death and destruction across the Philippines, had been heading away from Hong Kong when it veered unexpectedly and sideswiped the British colony before dawn.

Emergency services reported 12 people sought hospital treatment for injuries sustained during the height of the typhoon. Two were admitted in satisfactory condition.

Most of the injured were hit by flying signs, scaffolding and debris whipped around by winds gusting at up to 100 kmh (60 mph).

Twenty-five villagers cut off by rising flood waters in a remote village near the border with China were rescued by dinghy.

The storm weakened late in the morning, enabling the Royal Observatory to lower the number eight typhoon warning signal at 11:30 am (0330 GMT) to a number three.

That told Hong Kong people their unexpected holiday was over and ordered them back to work.

Marriage registries, shops and the stock and capital markets reopened for the afternoon session although schools, the courts and many government offices remained closed.

Airlines began clearing a backlog of passengers which built up at Kai Tak Airport.

One incoming flight was diverted, 13 delayed and three cancelled, the Civil Aviation Department said.

Seven outgoing flights were delayed and two cancelled.

Civil Aviation Department spokesman Albert Lam said the airport may have to remain open beyond its normal midnight (1600 GMT) curfew to cope with a backlog of about 25 flights, many delayed from Monday.

Hong Kong's dwindling fishing community, who took shelter behind breakwaters designed to protect them from typhoons, spent the afternoon bailing out their junks and trawlers but said they did not expect to venture out to sea for a day or two.

Experts counted 407 tremors between midnight and 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, including 206 in one hour.

Most of the tremors were too small to be felt by humans, but people have been able to sense 100 of



British Labour Party's shadow chancellor Gordon Brown gives his opening speech at the party conference in Brighton (AFP photo)

Labour Party leader faces down dissidents, sees British revival

BRIGHTON, England (Agencies) — Labour leader Tony Blair, buoyed by another victory over dissident left-wingers, will tell

British voters Tuesday to

put his party back in power or face years of economic decline.

In a speech to Labour's annual conference Tuesday afternoon, the opposition leader will argue that Britain under the "old and tired" ruling Conservatives is simply not equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Aides said the message would mark an attempt by Mr. Blair, after a year spent remoulding the party in his moderate image, to switch the emphasis to the tasks facing Labour if it wrests power from the Conservatives after 16 years in opposition.

But the conference — displaying a discipline that has not always been evident during Labour's 16 years in opposition — has so far gone well for Mr. Blair. Aides said the Labour leader planned to build on the early successes by telling the conference that it will be a revitalised Labour's task to lead Britain back into the premier league of nations.

Fifty years after World War II and five years before the new millennium, Britain had reached a turning point. "The challenge to Britain is to modernise or to decline for ever," he says. Britain under the Conservatives had grown old and tired and only Labour could summon up the moral purpose needed to build a new social order.

As part of a new "contract with Britain," with echoes of U.S. Republican leader Newt Gingrich's "contract with America," Mr. Blair will outline plans to wean single mothers off social security and to reduce school class sizes, aides said.

He singles out the need to reform Britain's National Lottery and also intends to stress that the successful countries of tomorrow will be those that harness education and technology in a process of life-long learning.

Meanwhile the Daily Telegraph said Tuesday Mr. Blair has struck a secret

deal with the bosses of Britain's main trades unions giving them a central role in the party's electoral strategy.

The report said that the leaders of 12 major unions met Mr. Blair at a meeting two weeks ago. "At the meeting, which was not made public, Mr. Blair promised that improved rights for workers would be a key element of Labour's election campaign.

"In return, the unions would pour resources into the marginal seats that Labour must win to end more than 16 years in opposition," said the paper.

The revelations come just after a poll in a rival paper, the Telegraph, suggested the reduced role of the unions in the party made voters more likely to vote Labour at the next election, due by 1997.

The Telegraph said: "Although Mr. Blair has given the public impression that he is keeping the unions at arm's length, documents passed to the Daily Telegraph show that in private he is relying on them more than ever to get him into Downing Street."

The paper concluded the revelations would be highly embarrassing for the Labour Party.

President of the Conservatives Brian Mawhinney immediately accused Mr. Blair of "breath-taking hypocrisy".

It showed the party was still in the hands of the union, he added. "People are going to be disgusted at the idea that there is a secret deal."

A spokesman for the Labour Party dismissed the matter as "absurd", since meetings between Blair and the unions were held on a regular basis and were not secret.

Japan's dread of 'big one' intensifies after 6,200 tremors

TOKYO (AFP) —

Hundreds of earth tremors

were recorded on the

Pacific coast near Tokyo

Tuesday for the fourth day,

fuelling a national dread of

a killer quake — the "big one" — that could wreck

the capital.

More than 6,200 seismic

rumbles have recorded on

the Izu peninsula, 100 kilo-

miles southwest of Tokyo

since Friday, Japan's

Meteorological

Agency reported.

But experts said chances

were remote that the

tremors would build into a

devastating earthquake on

the scale of the Jan. 17 tem-

blor that killed more than

5,500 in Kobe and left tens

of thousands homeless.

Nevertheless a special team

from the

Meteorological Agency set

up extra equipment at the

weekend to closely monitor

signs of "the big one" a

national obsession since the

Kobe disaster.

Experts counted 407

tremors between midnight

and 8:00 a.m. Tuesday,

including 206 in one hour.

Most of the tremors were

too small to be felt by

Do pigeons commute? British scientists ask
LONDON (R) — Readers one of Britain's most authoritative scientific journals have begun a debate over whether London's metro system is about the capital. In general, said they had seen birds hopping on off underground trains apparently deliberately via. Foster reported seeing a pair of pigeons get on a train at one station. Aldgate, staying by door, and "slaloming for purpose" at the next, over Hill. "How did they know the platform for over Hill was the same of the carriage as that Aldgate?" she asked other reader, noting that others have renounced facilities: "I see no reason they should not have been on to the fact that tube saves them."

Keanu Reeves says no desire to marry

HOLLYWOOD (R) — Hollywood heartthrob Keanu Reeves has no desire to get married. "I have friends who have made the leap, it is not for me," the year-old star of the box office hit *Speed* told Men's Own magazine in an interview. "My parents split up when I was young, and I have seen things to recommend marriage," told the British weekly magazine. Asked if allegations he was bisexual, Reeves said he deliberately kept the gossip columnists from being photographed in lots of girlfriends and kept my private life."

utch drug dealer plays tag with police

CONGO (R) — A cocaine dealer wearing a stetson hat and sunglasses was captured in the northern city of Kinshasa carrying a lucrative drugs stash from home. An agency said the 35-year-old man adhered daily to the times he was allowed to be away from home, the electronic eejot leader told AFP. Unfortunately he used the time to develop criminal activities. The man — one of two offenders chosen to test after a tip from one of his customers —

Finns leave EU meeting to catch a plane

NETHERLANDS (R) — Island's top ministers leave a European Union foreign minister meeting early because their country had no plane to take them home. Foreign minister Tuula Halonen and European Affairs minister Ole Norback left the airport in late afternoon to catch a regular scheduled flight, despite bad weather. A Finnish diplomat said the problem was that Finland has no government planes and ministers travel by commercial airline. Worse yet for the ministers was that there is no direct flight from Brussels to Switzerland. The two had change in Switzerland.

Buckingham Palace hauls in the tourists

JAPAN (R) — Queen Elizabeth II, 80 million, the largest ever by allowing paid visitors into Buckingham Palace, the London residence of another royal family. The pro-government television channel said as many as 150 people may have been



Life slowly returns to normal in Comoros capital of Moroni after last week's coup led by French mercenary Bob Denard (AFP photo)

France sends commandos towards Comoros

MORONI (AFP) — France Tuesday turned the screws on mercenaries who led a successful putsch in the Comoro Islands, announcing it was sending commandos toward its former colony in the Indian Ocean. French Navy ships, which are carrying landing craft, are already visible off the capital, and 4,000 French troops are on alert on the neighbouring island of Mayotte, on Réunion, to the east, and in Djibouti, on the Horn of Africa.

French Prime Minister Alain Juppe said after the coup last Thursday, led by French mercenary Bob Denard, that there was "no question" of military intervention — but that was what the defence minister of the time said just before paratroopers landed in 1989 to expel Denard and his mercenaries after a previous coup.

Some 1,500 French nationals live here, 1,000 of them with dual nationality, and French officials said in Paris Monday that all options remain open, despite Mr. Juppe's statement.

Twenty commandos from an elite unit of the paramilitary Gendarmerie are on

their way to the region as part of the "prepositioning" of French forces, a French government official said in Paris Tuesday.

Mercenaries were reinforcing their positions around an airport near Moroni. Two European mercenaries and at least 30 Comorian soldiers had taken up positions on the runway at Itsambo Airport, which has not been used for years but could be a staging area for a French intervention, an AFP journalist reported.

One official said France was in an "observation phase" to see what Denard and his men intended before deciding on military intervention or backing a political settlement between politicians.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said in Paris Tuesday that France welcomed an announcement Monday by deposed Prime Minister Caambi El-Yashur, declaring himself interim president.

Mr. Yashur, who has taken refuge in the French embassy in Moroni and is also calling for French intervention, said he was seeking the formation of a

government of national unity. Mr. Rummelhardt said France greeted Mr. Yashur's statement "with interest."

Comorian army Captain Ayouta Combo, who headed a transitional junta, warned Monday that French military intervention would lead to civil war in these tropical islands off East Africa, between Mozambique and the island of Madagascar.

"We will not leave our country and we are ready to die," the bearded captain told journalists.

France has already suspended the aid — \$20 million a year — on which the 500,000 people of these Islamic islands, one of the poorest nations on earth, depend for survival.

One of the main opposition groupings, the Forum for National Recovery, representing six parties, called Tuesday for a French-led international force to expel the mercenaries and supervise elections for a new president.

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Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.
Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4 684311, 699634
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO.
Facsimile: 696183

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From ideals to reality

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan made a very important point Monday when he told the opening session of a Pan-Arab Conference on education at the University of Jordan that it was time we discussed the development of human resources on the basis of standards that are objective, substantive and applicable for all citizens. This has been one of the biggest challenges the country has faced since its establishment and remains as the main crisis clogging optimum gain from the country's human resources and potential.

Even more challenging in the words of the Crown Prince is the willingness and ability of the government to heed these words and translate them into reality. It is frustrating for all of us to see our leaders offer timely counsel, and then to see this counsel being effectively disregarded by public and private sectors alike. Provincialism, factionalism and sectarianism, Prince Hassan warned the audience, have in effect created components in our society that are incompatible with the public's own interests and perspectives.

These are the woes not only of Jordan but of most nations of the world. There have been successes in some countries, however. In Canada, for instance, multiculturalism has been promoted to some degree of success as the mainstay of the Canadian federation. In other societies such as the U.S., the melting pot strategy was endorsed and applied vigorously as the surest way to maintain cohesion and unity. There are, of course, many "happy medium" policies that some states have incorporated into their systems to strike harmony and comaraderie between the various ethnic and religious groups that make up the population. Whether we in the Arab World opt for either approach, it is clear that we need to reflect more carefully on the address of the Crown Prince and start treating people equally irrespective of their faith, ideology or origin. Admittedly, like others in the region, we still have a long way to go before we can begin to implement equality amongst all nationals whether de facto or de jure. But until we do that exploitation of our full human resources and potential will remain unrealised. For its economy, social and even political development, this is a loss this country can no longer afford to sustain.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Dustour Tuesday discussed a declaration issued by political groups who oppose normalisation with Israel, to abort deals with the Jewish state. The opposition parties openly declared their intention to foil the Wadi Araba and Oslo agreements, but failed to say how they would achieve that goal with their limited means and members, wrote Saleh Qallab. According to lists submitted to the Ministry of Interior membership does not exceed 14,000, the writer added. The opposition groups, wrote Mr. Qallab, are divided and weak and do not agree on common goals. Had the opposition been strong enough and backed by a wide popular base, they could have foiled the idea of a settlement with Israel from the start and before the convening of the Madrid conference, continued the writer. In the writer's view, these parties, which habitually issue big slogans declaring their rejection of any settlement, are merely trying to escape from facts and present realities.

JORDANIANS would like to share unity with other Arab countries, or at least a confederation, but without Americans or Israelis shaping such matters for them or determining their future, and Tareq Masarweh in Al Ra'i daily Tuesday, Arab countries will opt for unity or confederation when and how they choose and out of a desire to safeguard Arab interests and not to serve the purpose of outside forces, wrote the writer. Why should President Clinton or his Foreign Minister wish to raise the question of a confederation between Jordan and Palestine at this stage when the Palestinians have not yet recovered their lands or established their state, asked the writer. He said it is clear that Israel is trying to escape from recognising the full rights of Palestinians in determining their own destiny and an independent Palestinian state as a neighbour. The writer said that Israel is seeking to give the Palestinians an autonomous powers rather than a state, the dream which the Palestinians have been struggling to fulfil.

Washington Watch

SOME THINGS change some things remain the same.

It was impossible to avoid making comparisons between last week's Israeli-Palestinian White House ceremony and the September 1993 Washington signing of the Declaration of Principles (DoP).

The days leading up to the 1993 event were filled with expectations: A psychological and emotional breakthrough was occurring, history was being made. This year, on the other hand, found neither the Arab-American nor American-Jewish community leadership expressing enthusiasm at the prospect of yet another White House event.

For many, the hopes raised in 1993 had been dashed during the two long and hard years that followed. Continued repression and violence, coupled with the lack of progress in implementing the political aspects of the DoP and economic development, left supporters of peace wanting. Among both Arab-Americans and American Jews, it appeared that the opponents of peace had the upperhand.

Further diminishing enthusiasm was the perception that the most recent negotiations had been too long, too hard-fought and had yielded a product too imperfect to create a workable solution.

Since so few were happy with the results, what was there to celebrate?

While the events of September 1993 left the Arab-American and American-Jewish leaderships euphoric, Septem-

Reactions to the Washington signing of PLO-Israel deal

By Dr. James Zogby

honour and complete this peace process, and if his U.S. Jewish opponents didn't like it they could be said, in effect, "keep their money."

At some point in his remarks Mr. Rabin noted that the goal of the peace process was to see Israel living next to — and he said — "an independent Palestinian state." After a pause, he corrected himself saying that it would be "something less than a state." A number of Jewish leaders who were present noted that Mr. Rabin often used the word "state," and during his pause, there was no negative audience reaction. Mr. Rabin's "apparent" misstep was no surprise and created no shock — a Palestinian state is an inevitability and most American-Jews know it.

For his part Mr. Peres, speaking before a mixed Arab-American and American-Jewish audience, also gave new insight into the changing attitude. He spoke of having come to understand the misery that Palestinians have had to endure and noted that he has learned in his life that no one has the right to take freedom and independence away from any other people. As he spoke passionately about these feelings, there were whispers in the audience commenting on the Foreign Minister's very personal expression of feeling for Palestinian suffering.

For his part, Mr. Arafat

worked hard on the day following the Thursday ceremony. He began the day at a Builders of Peace breakfast, urging more investment in the West Bank and Gaza. After a few official meetings, the Palestine National Authority (PNA) president spent a tough hour answering questions from the editorial board of the Washington Post. He then attended back-to-back luncheons hosted in his honour in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

He again received tough and pointed questions and gave back rough and pointed answers. Many of the members of Congress who attended were the very same members who only one week earlier were rudely insulting Mr. Arafat and calling for an end to U.S. financial support for the PNA. A number of those same congressmen indicated that they had been very impressed by the PNA president's straightforward answers to their questions. The Senate and congressional sessions both ended with handshakes, photo-ops and commitments to work together to make the process a success — a very different tune from a week ago.

The combined result of the presence of these leaders in Washington, their words, and the White House ritual has been to create among Arab-Americans and American-Jews a new sense of com-

mitment to the peace process. Cynics have become believers — but believers who realise that the success of this process will require hard work.

It is clear that the current agreement is, at best, a weak compromise. Absent U.S. pressure on Israel to give more the Palestinians got not what they deserved but what they could get.

The most optimistic and realistic way to describe this pact is that it represents neither a half-full nor half-empty cup for Palestinians. Rather, it is the beginning of having a cup at all, and now comes the chance to fill it. Will the landmines that mark the landscape of the accord (e.g. too many settlers, too little land and water) explode in the faces of those who are earnestly hoping to make this peace work?

It is not time that will tell — it is the commitment of leadership in both the region and in the U.S. that will shepherd the process through to a successful completion. We left the September 1993 signing with euphoria — but with a passive sense that with the handshake, reality had changed. We left the September 1995 events knowing that reality had not changed. Feelings and some attitudes have changed — but for reality to change, the new relationship and attitudes must be transformed into hard new facts. This will require a mutual investment and commitment to implement Palestinian rights despite the explosions and protests that are bound to occur.

It Occurred to Me

By Ali Kassay

Hailing an adventure

Jordan, as the world knows, takes tourism seriously and seeks actively to develop this industry. Why, then, does it persist in ignoring an area which, if developed, may attract millions in revenue? I refer here to adventure tourism.

The lover of adventure can fulfil his quest without setting foot outside Amman simply by taking a taxi. Attempt, if you will, the contortionist's feat of squeezing yourself onto the seats, which are invariably lopsided, slashed at various places, and unsteady on their runners. Notice, if you will, the sharp contrast between the red and white no smoking sign on the windscreen, and the red and white packets of cigarettes on the dashboard.

As the journey starts, your sense of danger is tickled by the discovery that safety belts, mandatory by law, are non-functional. Your detective instincts are challenged by the enigma surrounding the driver. His identity card which, by law, has to be displayed prominently, bears a photo rarely if ever compatible with his face. Even where compatibility exists, his identity remains unknown because the information in Arabic is written in a free and largely illegible hand, and it overflows into the space allocated for the English text, which is then omitted for the lack of space.

Seriously, if tourists are to feel welcome in this country, taxis (and drivers) should be made road worthy. Vehicles are often so rickety that they seem to be held together only by paper staples, chewing gum and string. This, in all fairness, is not entirely the fault of drivers. Regulatory bodies pass codes and regulations, apparently in total disregard to the realistic prospects of implementing them. In reality, taxes on spare parts are so exorbitant as to make maintenance unfeasible. Why not exempt taxis and their spare parts from all levies, and simply tax the income of the taxi?

Equally serious is the need for a campaign to instruct taxi drivers in certain basic codes of conduct like washing regularly, shaving either regularly or not at all, and not using the bare finger for excavation work in the nostrils. Two more messages need to be drummed in: the first is that a non Arab man is not necessarily a fair target for the driver's abuse; the second, and more important one, is that a non Arab woman is not necessarily a fair target for the driver's libido.

The revelation is long overdue that a woman may don short trousers and a light shirt, merely because the temperature exceeds forty degrees in the shade, and not to invite on herself the worst excesses of Sodom and Gomorrah.

M. KAHIL



Unrest in Karachi still Bhutto's biggest bugbear

By Alistair Lyon

Reuter

KARACHI — After nearly two years in power, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is still grappling with daily killings in Pakistan's biggest city, Karachi.

Karachi was paralysed on Sunday by a one-day strike called by the ethnic opposition Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) in protest at what it said was the killing on Thursday of three MQM workers in police custody. Police say they died in a shootout.

Keen to reassure wary foreign investors, Mrs. Bhutto launched a big effort in July to crush what she calls a "mini-insurgency" and stop ethnic and sectarian strife plaguing the southern port.

Security forces cracked down on MQM militants, arresting more than 200 and killing dozens of others in armed clashes.

Mobile telephone and pager networks in the teeming city of 12 million were cut off to disrupt MQM communications.

Simultaneously, the government began peace talks

which have yet to bear fruit. Last week the MQM boycotted one session and said it would not return to the table until the government stops the security forces from dealing summarily with its workers.

Interior Minister Naseerulah Babar, a retired general, says the government's policy of talking loudly and wielding a big stick will restore peace to Karachi by the end of the year.

The evidence is mixed. The daily death toll dropped noticeably in July, but has since crept back up, with 48 people killed last week and 149 in September. That has brought the total for this year to 1,523, approaching double the 800 who died in 1994.

Many of the victims, who include 135 policemen, were kidnapped and tortured before being killed by anonymous assassins — no groups claim responsibility in this dirty war.

Altaf Hussain, London-based leader of the MQM, accuses Bhutto's government of preparing for "civil war and genocide" by arming unnamed groups to unleash against her people.

The MQM, which will not admit it is waging a guerrilla war as well as a political struggle, has hit back by disrupting Pakistan's industrial and commercial hub with frequent strikes.

Top MQM negotiator Ajmal Dhaliavi told Reuters last week that the talks had made no progress and none was likely while Mrs. Bhutto, whose vote base is in rural Sindh Province, stays in power.

"We have a political understanding with Nawaz Sharif," he said, explaining that the leader of the main opposition Pakistan Muslim League had accepted all the MQM's demands.

Some political commentators say Mrs. Bhutto cannot make too many concessions to the Urdu-speaking Mohajirs, most of whom arrived from India after partition in 1947, without offending her landlord backers in Sindh, of which Karachi is the capital.

Others say her government is taking its cue from the army, which withdrew troops from Karachi in November after 29 months but still plays a powerful role through its control of

the paramilitary rangers sharing security duties with police.

"Everything happening in Sindh Province is connected to the army and intelligence agencies," Dehlavi said. They want to crush the MQM or divide it into competing factions."

Businessmen in the bustling chaos of Karachi are divided over whether the government has really weakened the MQM.

"But they agree on the urgent need to stem the violence to restore the shaken confidence of foreign and local investors."

"The government is very eager to get foreign investment, but foreign investors are shy because of what they see on television," said S.M. Munir, president of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"Law and order has improved... but business confidence is not good. There must be a political solution and the government should take a tough stand on terrorism," he said.

"Our foreign customers don't want to come to Karachi any more," said Khalid Iqbal, chief executive of Quetta Textiles Li-

mited. "They ask to come to Lahore or want us to go to Dubai or they just divert their business to Delhi or Bombay."

Still, Mohibullah Shah, secretary of the State Board of Investment, believes Pakistan will lure \$4 billion of foreign direct and equity investment in 1995, mostly in power projects.

"No doubt law and order in Karachi is a handicap, but we have put across the message that Pakistan is an attractive place to invest," he told Reuters.

A survey by Business South Asia published by the Economist Intelligence Unit recently polled multinational companies on how they viewed Pakistan as a target for investment.

It said 48 per cent of 78 respondents rated Pakistan fourth most attractive of five emerging markets, while 36 per cent saw China, India, Vietnam and Cambodia as better bets.

"When the (MQM-government) talks started, people hoped some settlement would take place," said Sirajuddin Cassim, president of Karachi Stock Exchange. "Now they've lost all hope."

Features

Betselem demands independent autopsy of Palestinian-American who died in PLO detention cell

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Israeli human rights group has demanded that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat authorise an independent autopsy of a Palestinian-American who died after being detained by Palestinian security agents.

"The death of Azzam Musleh is yet one more example of the (Palestinian) preventive security service's failure to uphold its basic obligation to respect human rights," the Betselem group said in a letter to Mr. Arafat.

Musleh, 52, is the fifth man to die in Palestinian custody since the Gaza Strip and Jericho became autonomous in May 1994. Relatives say his body bore marks of torture.

Betselem demanded that an autopsy be performed, even though the procedure violates Muslim tradition.

Mr. Arafat chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has already ordered an investigation into the death of Mr. Musleh, who returned to his native West Bank four years ago after 21 years in the United States, where he owned a supermarket in Dallas, Texas.

A Palestinian official, speaking anonymously, said President Bill Clinton personally asked Mr. Arafat to issue a

look into Mr. Musleh's death. "The case has reached the highest level," the official said, on condition of anonymity.

A U.S. official, also speaking anonymously, would only confirm that the issue of the dead American had been discussed with Palestinian in Washington.

The U.S. government said Monday it was concerned over the death. But State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said there were no plans to set up an independent U.S. inquiry into the death.

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The United States is concerned about the circumstances surrounding the death...," Mr. Burns told reporters.

Mr. Burns called Mr. Arafat's probe into the death "certainly appropriate."

He added: "Right now, there are no plans for an independent American investigation. We will concentrate on working with the Palestinian Authority to pursue this issue."

The U.S. deputy consul general in Jerusalem, John Barger, went to Jericho on

and pressing charges against the defendant.

It was not yet known why Mr. Ne'matt was denied bail; judicial sources referred to comment on the issue.

But Mr. Ne'matt's lawyer, Ayman Abu Sharhik, was quoted by international news agencies as saying he was trying to appeal against the prosecutor's decision and to seek his release on bail.

If found guilty, Mr. Ne'matt could face fines and imprisonment.

The controversial report came after the defection to Jordan of Iraq's top military weapons' expert, Hussein Kamel, and his call from here for overthrowing Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

But the detention of Mr. Ne'matt caught most journalists by surprise, especially that it took place prior to referring the case to court

and pressing charges against the defendant.

Under the current Press and Publications Law, reporters should reveal their sources if the court decides "this would protect national security, prevent crime or attain justice."

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Journalist held in custody

(Continued from page 1)

Cudah.

One day after the article was published in Al Hayat, Mr. Masarweh demanded in his daily column in Al Ra'i that Mr. Ne'matt and Al Hayat be taken to court, and said that he was planning to do so himself.

"We will go to court to find out who these 'informed sources' and 'official sources' who have relayed to Al Hayat the government's concern over the Iraqi regime," Mr. Masarweh wrote.

In his report, Mr. Ne'matt wrote that "Iraqi institutions are trying to recruit Jordanian journalists and writers and working on winning over all forces that support the Iraqi regime by giving money

or gift or paying direct salaries."

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O.J. Simpson is acquitted

(Continued from page 1)

American football field,

fame-making television commercials for a rental car company, pop culture status for his roles in the "Naked Gun" movie spoofs.

His private life was something else. Prosecutors said Mr. Simpson's outward strength of body and personality hid psychological weakness. He was, they said, racked by jealousy, plagued with anger, bent on control in every situation. He was a time bomb.

The bomb exploded, according to prosecutors, on June 12, 1994.

Mr. Simpson's defence rested on the simple premise that the one place he was not that night was at his ex-wife's home, where the throats of Ms. Simpson and Goldman were slashed.

At the crime scene were bloody footprints in his shoe size, 12, and blood drops bearing Mr. Simpson's genetic markers. Near the bodies was a glove in his size — and of a style identical to that of gloves his ex-wife bought him

which he wore at televised football games.

At Mr. Simpson's house was the glove's apparent mate, smeared with incriminating evidence: blood with the genetic markers of him and the two victims. Also on it was a hair similar to Ms. Simpson's and fibers almost identical to those in the carpeting of Mr. Simpson's Bronco.

There was Mr. Simpson's blood on his driveway, Mr. Simpson's blood in the foyer, and a pair of bloody socks in his bedroom. The sock blood contained Ms. Simpson's genetic markers, as well as Mr. Simpson's.

In his Bronco vehicle, there was more blood: on the steering wheel, the door, the centre console and the carpeting.

The trial spanned more than a year from jury selection to closing arguments. Jurors were locked down in a hotel to protect them from media contamination, corruption and compromise.

The prosecution case consumed nearly six months.

Qadhafi to visit expellees

(Continued from page 1)

proved his point to the world and that he will take them back," said Umm Adel, a woman who left the camp in Egypt en route to Gaza.

Preparations were underway Tuesday, with some 150 extra security men deployed to keep order, Egyptian officials said.

A podium was set up and strings of lights hung around the camp of 80 tents erected by the Libyan authorities, while a t-shaped marquee was put up on the Libyan side of the border and Libyan flags hoisted at Misrata.

Egyptian journalists entered no-man's land and they saw around 500 Palestinians in the camp on Tuesday.

If Damascus allows them to enter, it will be the first time Palestinians have been expelled directly from Libya in Syria. Lebanon, whose policy is closely tied to Syria's, has refused Palestinians entry and cut off all sea links with Libya on Sept. 8.

Israel

(Continued from page 1)

each year, preparing through prayer and reflection to stand before God in judgment.

This year there is also anger, with many feeling of alienation after the secular Israeli government in last week signed an accord conceding to the Palestinians West Bank land which the religious claim as a Biblical birthright.

The agreement has aggravated existing tensions between Israel's secular majority and the observant community — variously estimated at from a fifth to a third of the country's 4.5 million Jews.

Both communities are screaming at each other, they are not talking to each other," said Rabbi David Hartman, a Jewish philosopher who runs an orthodox seminary in Jerusalem.

Historically, Yom Kippur has also been an occasion for Jewish unity. But it is in scant evidence these days.

Mr. Amos noted too the possibilities of building oil

Two Cultures: A science fiction

Have scientists created a new literary genre? No, in reality art has long been dominated by science

By Bryan Appleyard

"WHEN I find myself in the company of scientists," wrote WH Auden in *The Blind Watchmaker*, a masterpiece — because he has the literary gift to universalise a highly specific experience.

Carey's big claim is, of course, completely wrong, but interestingly so. This popular science is not major literature, though it is, sporadically, very well written.

Dawkins is lucid and has a writer's flair for the dramatic. Stephen Jay Gould is graceful and vivid, and there are a number of other scientists in Carey's anthology who fully deserve the classification "writer."

Furthermore, it is true that this kind of writing does seem to have taken off in recent years. There are big popular science sections in all bookshops and scientists seem to be falling over each other to explain themselves to the lay masses. Perhaps they are idealists, though, it has to be said, the flow of books did increase dramatically once it became clear what kind of money

Stephen Hawking was making out of *A Brief History of Time*. But, never mind the motive, the culture is, unquestionably, emerged.

Now John Carey, Merton Professor of English at Oxford, has intervened in the conflict. As editor of the *Faber Book of Science*, which was published last week, he asserts that the best of modern scientific popularisers — Richard Dawkins, Stephen Jay Gould and so on — have created a new kind of late-20th century literature, one that demands to be recognised as a separate genre, distinct from the old literary forms, and conveying pleasures and triumphs quite distinct from theirs.

Meanwhile, the Paris-based Reporters Without Frontiers organisation appealed to His Majesty King Hussein to "use (his) influence to rescind the detention measure" against Mr. Ne'matt.

This detention of (14) days appears too excessive in relation to the charges being investigated against him, the appeal, a copy of which was sent to the Jordan Times, said.

As a result, claims Carey, with only a few exceptions poetry has remained "science-blind." Now, at last, scientists are doing the job the poets ought to have been doing for the past 400 years — knowledgeably celebrating science in literature.

Now Carey, at one point, does ask himself why poets might have adopted this



Are writers such as Stephen Hawking celebrating science as Shakespeare did?

haughty posture towards science. But he answers himself merely by speculating that "it is assumed that the poetic imagination is superior to the scientific." That is to do little more than repeat the question.

What Carey should have noted was the paranoia of Coleridge or any number of other writers who have sneered at science. This is not a real sense of superiority; this is fear, obsession.

The poets know their enemy and they cannot take their eye off him. Whatever writers may have been saying about the inferiority and irrelevance of science for the past 400 years science has, in fact, been their primary subject matter.

Madame Bovary is, to a large extent, about science. William Blake is about science. Thousands of pages of Victorian novels are about science. In our own day, Martin Amis's novels have become increasingly fixated on science: less obviously, the poetry of John Ashberry is about science. And, equally obliquely though no less certainly, Samuel Beckett is about science. They write about science not in the explicit sense of describing experiments or theories, but in a more fundamental sense. They write about the world as they find it, and what they find is a world in which the dominant power and faith is science. Not in

some way, to write about science may be impossible, and it would certainly be dishonest.

This is not what either of the Two Cultures wants to hear. The artist wants to hear the soothing assurance that his concerns are bigger and better than those of the scientist. The scientist wants to see science celebrated from within — as a supremely effective and benevolent expertise guarded by the specialist language of mathematics and selectively explained by a few gifted popularisers. What neither wants to be told is that science is all around us, it can neither be ignored by aesthetes nor controlled by a few arrogant practitioners who happen to have a talent for writing.

Carey does go so far as to admit that Martin Amis writes about science, comparing his book *Einstein's Monsters* with Dawkins's *The Blind Watchmaker*. But he concludes: "From the viewpoint of late-20th-century thought, Dawkins's book represents the instructed and Amis's the uninstructed imagination." This is trivial. Amis knows as much about science as Dawkins, he just knows different things. Dawkins knows the workings of science as a system: Amis knows it as a potent, complex force in the world and in his imagination. Both



forms of knowing are appropriate, but the latter is more difficult. Some scientists can, of course, do both; Dawkins, as it happens, can't.

This explains why English teachers need not be troubled about Carey's insistence that modern popular science is an important addition to their curriculum.

Art is about the accomplishment of the most difficult and significant task; and that, in our time, is predominantly the attempt to square the demands and capacity of science with those of the human imagination. The vast majority of these popularisers are merely vividly explaining science from within: they cannot, therefore, claim to be producing literature in the grand sense any more than Martin Amis can claim to be advancing quantum theory.

Maybe this is to admit that there really are two cultures. But I don't think so. I think there is one culture dominated by science and defined by different attitudes to science. There are dukes and there are curates, but they are all in the same drawing room.

The Faber Book of Science, edited by John Carey (Faber & Faber, £17.50). The above article is reprinted from the Independent.

Turkish tremor deaths rise

(Continued from page 1)

day despite a series of small tremors — often a warning of a larger shock to come — during the previous week.

They also confirmed that these same local authorities failed to distribute enough tents to residents whose homes were damaged or destroyed, leaving thousands of people without shelter.

Thursday, the day after the second tremor, which measured 4.8, we were told to return to our homes," said Ibrahim Aygunduz, who had fled to the outskirts of the city along with thousands of other Dinar residents. City officials "told us the 4.8 tremor would be the biggest, and that only weaker ones would follow."

Hundreds of residents, still in shock and looking bewildered, spent a cold night in tents or in stables.

Bosnia peace bid is jolted

(Continued from page 1)

pected by early November but depended on a peace agreement for Bosnia.

Mr. Holbrooke, who spent Monday talking to the Bosnian government in Sarajevo, was heading for fresh talks on Tuesday with Mr. Milosevic in Belgrade.

"We're talking not only about the ceasefire... we're also talking about what hap-

Joint projects

(Continued from page 12)

the implementation of joint development projects with Arab states, particularly in the energy sector.

He spoke of plans for linking Israeli, Egyptian and Jordanian electricity grids with prospects of joining the Dead Sea, situated below sea level along the Israeli-Jordan border, to the Red Sea by a 230-kilometre canal.

The Israeli army plans to withdraw most of its forces from six of seven West Bank towns by Dec. 30, a senior military official said.

The Israeli army will do everything possible to finish its redeployment by Dec. 30, 1995, in all the towns except Hebron, where it will not be completed until March.

General Uzi Dayan told reporters.

According to the general, the redeployment will begin in the northern West Bank town of Jenin and be com-

Rabin assured of Knesset vote

(Continued from page 1)

nian prisoners at the end of this week.

The first group may be released on Thursday afternoon or on Friday morning," said Sufyan Abu

EU, Egypt resume talks on association agreement

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and the European Union began at least five days of talks on Tuesday on details of a free trade association agreement which will replace the cooperation agreement in force since the 1970s.

Five groups of experts will discuss competitiveness, agricultural regimes, processed agricultural products, intellectual property and customs and rules of origin in advance of full negotiations in Brussels later this month.

The EU is proposing a 12-year transition to free trade with Egypt, which re-

tains substantial tariff barriers to manufactured imports despite recent trade liberalisation.

Under the old cooperation agreement, the only remaining restrictions on Egyptian exports to the EU have been on cotton yarn and cloth where Egypt exercises voluntary restraint, and on oranges, where Egypt exceeds a duty-free quota.

But the Egyptian government and some industrialists see free trade with Europe as the best way to make the country more competitive and catch up with other Mid-

dle East countries which have already gone further along the same path.

"The old agreement hasn't worked. Egyptian exports to the EU have been stable at about \$1 billion a year for four or five years, once you extract the oil," a European diplomat said.

"The other incentive for Egypt is that the terms of trade are changing all around them, especially with the new GATT, and they can't remain indifferent," he added.

At the end of the last pull round of negotiations in

of coal.

Geological and engineering studies confirmed 19 to 22 million tonnes of coal was recoverable at 120 to 150 metres, said the summary obtained by Reuters.

This would support a mine with about 535,000 tonnes per year capacity over 35 years, it said.

"We have much more coal in the ground which has not yet been proven and studied," the ministry official said.

Capital needs were put at \$32.2 million and total capital, costs, and interest would run to \$36.7 million, the study said.

The summary said it "indi-

Brussels in July, a European Commission official said he thought the talks would finish by the end of October but European officials in Cairo said this was wildly optimistic.

"I expect it will take three to four years," said one.

The negotiations have provoked a lively debate in the Egyptian press and some commentators have complained that the draft agreement under discussion favours the Europeans.

But the EU is unwilling to make radical changes in the

draft because it does not want the agreement with Egypt to vary much from those it has reached with Israel and Tunisia.

The EU representative in Egypt, Michael McGeever, said that in the discussions this week the experts would study the implications of the draft agreement in each of the five areas.

"It's an exploratory phase and these are areas they would like to get their teeth into. Then they will be able to see the consequences," he told Reuters.

Sudan acts to stop pound falling

sounding applications for hard currency they have submitted to the exchange houses, it said.

The decree will naturally cut demand for hard currency in the exchange houses, where the value of the pound has fallen in two weeks to 800 to the dollar from 680 to the dollar.

But it will also add to demand in the banks, which rely mainly on scarce public-sector foreign currency receipts.

The fall of the pound has put the exchange houses in the spotlight and trade unionists, arguing that they contribute to inflation, have asked

the government to close them down.

But Mr. Hamza said the government would let the exchange houses continue to operate and even expand.

Since they opened earlier this year, the volume of trade in the exchange houses has risen to \$1.5 million a day from \$88,000 a day at first, he said.

He said the exchange houses could attract capital from abroad and eventually help to stabilise the exchange rate.

The exchange houses buy dollars at rates about seven per cent more attractive than those on offer in the banks.

Oman seeks investment to develop first coal mine

DUBAI (R) — Oman is seeking foreign and local investors to develop its first coal mine in a project estimated to cost more than \$36 million, officials said on Tuesday.

Oman is developing its coal resources with the aim of becoming the first Gulf Arab state to use coal as a domestic energy source and is also considering exporting it.

A small oil producer compared to others in the region, Oman had made development of its minerals and metals a priority in diversifying and privatising the economy and is seeking foreign investment to exploit gold, uranium and copper.

Dollar buoyed by G-7 hopes

LONDON (R) — The dollar was buoyed on Tuesday as markets anticipated that leading industrial countries may throw their weight behind recent moves to strengthen the U.S. currency at a meeting on Saturday.

Trading, although thin, kept the dollar above 100.5 yen level, well above the levels of last week when a roller-coaster ride left the currency just above 99 yen on Friday.

European stocks made a lacklustre start, depressed by a sharp drop in Wall Street on Monday, but London and Paris shares perked up later to show some gains. Frankfurt was closed because of the Unity Day holiday.

Currency traders expected little fresh action ahead of important U.S. employment figures due out on Friday and the weekend Group of Seven (G7) meeting of industrialised nations.

"It's certainly quiet and I can't see much happening," said Carlo Galazzi, Forex

manager at Nikko Bank in London. "I think we will consolidate around 100 (yen) as we go towards G7 at the weekend."

The exception was the Swiss franc which continued its relentless march up to 1,1475 per dollar from Monday's 1,1497.

Rumours overnight, later denied, that Fuji Bank had suffered huge losses in currency trading helped underpin the dollar against the yen.

The reports showed the market was nervous about further problems for Japanese banks, traders said.

Officials of the G7 — which includes the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Britain — will gather in Washington during the 50th annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

They will do some tough talking on the dollar and back it up with intervention to buy the U.S. currency should it unsettle by Wall Street.

start to slide, traders believe.

The general feeling was that while the officials would like to see the dollar still higher, they are probably not too unhappy with current levels.

"The one-way bet is on dollar-yen if you have the stomach for it and are relaxed about dips on the way up," said ABN-AMRO economist Tony Norfield.

In London, Europe's biggest stock market, shares edged up in thin trading, weighed down initially by the overnight falls in New York.

"Things are tending to drift," one trader said. "I don't think we'll see a sharp setback, buying support is still there."

But the negative sentiment was dispelled later by gains from British Airways shares and takeover speculation primarily in electricity and water industries.

French shares too made gains, after an unsteady start, unsettled by Wall Street.

Israel oil imports to grow 5% a year

LIMASSOL, Cyprus (R) — Israel's oil imports will rise by five per cent a year because of new road construction, higher vehicle usage and poor energy efficiency, an Israeli energy consultant said on Tuesday.

The increase in Israel's crude oil imports is more than double demand forecasts for OECD states and is more typical of consumption growth seen in the expanding economies of Asia.

"The number of vehicles (in Israel) will grow in a frightening way in the next few years," Amos Ron, president of Haifa-based Consultants Ronaeon told delegates at an energy conference here.

Increased gasoline con-

sumption was expected because of the construction of new roads from Israel to the Egyptian and Jordanian borders and a new north-south carriageway in Israel, Mr. Ron said.

The country's energy efficiency had to be improved to limit the growing need for imported oil and petroleum products.

"Israel is not on the front line of energy efficiency and we must do something about it," Mr. Ron said.

Israel imported 12.5 million tonnes of crude oil last year from the international spot market and through a supply contract with the Egyptian government.

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The external financial reserves of six Gulf Arab oil producers jumped by more than 20 per cent in 1995 while the foreign assets of their commercial banks declined, a bank report showed on Tuesday.

International liquidity of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) stood at \$23.9 billion in June compared with \$18.2 billion in June 1994, the Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) said in its monthly bulletin.

The increase was mainly due to a sharp rise in Saudi Arabia's reserves to \$9.4 billion from \$5.2 billion. This compares with more than \$20 billion during the oil boom of the early 1980s.

Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter, was forced to withdraw from those reserves and other overseas investment to finance a large budget deficit caused by a decline in crude prices.

Kuwait, which is recovering from the 1990 Iraqi invasion, recorded a slight drop in its financial reserves to \$3.89 billion from \$4.09 billion.

ABC, controlled by the governments of Libya,

according to the Manama-based ABC.

The reserves of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) increased to \$7.6 billion from \$6.02 billion and those by the remaining GCC members — Bahrain, Oman and Qatar — registered a small growth.

The report about the economics of the 22-member Arab League showed net foreign assets by the GCC's nearly 120 commercial banks declined to \$29.5 billion in March from \$34.8 billion in March 1994.

Saudi Arabia was also to blame for the fall, with its assets going down to around \$13.7 billion from \$16.7 billion. Bankers said this was because Saudi commercial banks were repatriating part of their overseas investments to face growing demand for loans at home.

The UAE's bank foreign assets also fell to \$8.6 billion from \$10.7 billion while Kuwait's rose to \$3.4 billion from \$3.1 billion. The other three members recorded slight increases in assets.

ABC, controlled by the governments of Libya,

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Don't listen to what a home tie has to say about an outside partner. A situation arises today which makes it important to keep promises.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) Keep busy at regular activities and become more efficient at them today, but do not have a disagreement with a partner. Avoid wasting time.

Gemini: (May 21 to June 21) Concentrate on pleasure which will not be too expensive today and you can be just as happy. Get at creative activities you like.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) It is important you take care of the needs of kin and forget personal desires for the time being. Show you are a good host towards your special guests.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't permit a private concern to stop you today from accomplishing a good deal in the world of activity. Listen to the ideas of partners.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't permit one today who has little to do to keep you from important business dealings. Forget personal aims at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You are tempted today to make comments which are unlike your cooperative self, so refrain from doing so or there could be some concerns.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You may feel restricted in some way today, but the fog soon lifts and you are your happy self again. Don't go off on tangents which are unimportant.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Steer clear of that business melee and spend as much time today as you can with good and kind friends in some pleasing activities.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Concentrate on handling worldly and public affairs well today and avoid an irritable partner. Settle credit matters for your benefit.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You have a brilliant idea today which should be put in operation quickly, so don't waste time with the humdrum which could be present.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Make your environment more charming and comfortable today so that duties which you participate in will be easier in the future.

Birthstone of October: Opal — Tourmaline

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

ACROSS

1 Mansard, e.g.
5 Kiel, e.g.
10 Forearm bone
14 Vain
15 Bouquet
16 Stingy
17 Reverse, for one
18 Poe's bird
19 Author Grey
20 Start of a quip
23 English river
24 Intuitive letters
25 More of quip
34 Biddy
35 Goddess of agriculture
36 Author Ferber
37 Quiche need
39 Dashboard components
41 Tetched
42 In — of
43 Webber musical
45 Once called
46 More of quip
50 Young seal
51 Flight formation: abbr.
52 End of quip
59 Stylish
60 Guiltible
61 Hideout
63 Slangy negative
64 Out-and-out
65 Therefore
66 Signals agreement
67 Schemes
68 Monthly payment
DOWN
1 Fit out
2 Concert halls
3 Patron saint of Norway
4 Search about
5 Went at top speed
6 inland sea
7 — Scotia
8 Church corner
9 Surgical instrument
10 Opened
11 Meadowlands

12 Darling's pet
13 Exist
21 CEO
22 Ending for baron or count
25 Young dog
26 Government monopoly, of a kind
27 Stevens of "The Farmer's Daughter"
28 City on the Moselle
29 Villain
30 "There's many ..."
31 "A Bell for —"
32 Surmise
33 Went out socially
38 Mystery story characters
40 Pilots
44 Coy
47 Alphabet run
48 Make available
49 Ahab, for one

5 DAME
6 ADLA
7 SINS
8 UV
9 EAD
10 DROPS
11 OREO
12 MERRY
13 MONTH
14 OF MAY
15 PRESSING
16 RIATA
17 ERE
18 LAMA
19 CO
20 HER
21 SO
22 OSO
23 AGO
24 ATEN
25 APAIL
26 QUA
27 THE
28 GUNS
29 OF AUGUST
30 T
31 TED
32 TACOS
33 SATE
34 YRS
35 TOOK
36 REASON
37 REST
38 SEC
39 BRIER
40 EMACIATE
41 ROSES
42 S
43 IN
44 DECEMBER
45 OTIS
46 MENAT
47 ALSO
48 ZONE
49 PEARS
50 NESS

Yesterday's puzzle solved:

1 I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED HOW YOU DECIDED TO BECOME A DOG...
2 THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION
3 I REMEMBER GOING DOWN THE LIST...
4 EVERYTHING ELSE WAS TAKEN...
5 SEE YOU, PET
6 HOW ABOUT A GOODBYE KISS, THEN?
7 AND BRING MY HANDBAG?
8 TCH! TCH! TALK ABOUT CYNICAL — LOOK, FLO. THERE'S SOME THINGS YOU CAN'T PUT A PRICE ON —
9 A PAYER?
10 ...MAKE IT TEN

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Business & Finance

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1995 9

alling

erment to close them

Mr. Hamid said the government would let the exchange houses continue to expand in the future. The volume of trade exchange houses has \$1.5 million a day.

said the exchange could attract capital from abroad and eventually stabilise the exchange

exchange houses but rates about seven or more attractive than on offer in the banks

/ up, down

and the U.A.E. put the debt at \$6.8 billion at end of 1993 compared with \$4.4 billion at the end of 1992. It gave no figures, rates in the first half of 1995 were 5.1 per cent. Saudi Arabia 5.0 per cent, the U.A.E. 1.0 per cent, while 3.9 per cent in 1994, 3.9 per cent in 1993 compared with the 1994. Jordan and Oman were the members that reported inflation rates in 1995

OROSCOPE

CAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1995

Thomas S. Person

Ozark, Carroll Right

Astrological Foundation

S (March 21 to April 19) You don't listen to what a tie has to say about a partner. A situation today which makes it hard to keep promises.

US: (April 20 to May 18) Bus at regular speed and become more efficient than them, but as we disagree on our ideas. Avoid work.

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JO: (August 21 to September 22) Don't permit today who has little to do with you from important decisions. Forget personal affairs at this time.

A: (September 23 to October 22) You are tempted to make comments that are unlike your co-operative self, so refrain from saying what they could be concerned.

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TIARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Steel of that business metered at much time today can with good and friends in some pleasure.

SCORPION: (December 22 to January 20) Concentrate on business well and things well today and an available partner credit matters for your

ARIES: (January 21 to February 19) You have a bad idea today which if it is put in operation, so don't waste time.

the humidum which be present.

ES: (February 20 to March 20) Make your environment more comfortable today so that you will be easier in the

stone of October: Optimal

survival

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

Business Daily Beat

A review of economic news from the Arabic press

A lake for Ajloun

Ajloun Municipality is contemplating launching an artificial lake project in the Ein Quneitra area, Mayor Mohammad Smadi said. Mr. Smadi said the municipality conducted a study on the project which aims to encourage tourism and sports, mainly canoeing. He said the planned lake will be seven-metre deep and will stretch over an area of 90,000 square metres. He added that the envisaged project will entail constructing chalets, a small hotel, playgrounds, parks and a rest house. Mr. Smadi said the project might be linked to Ajloun's main tourist attraction, the Ajloun citadel, which was formerly known as Al Rabad Castle, with 35-passenger cable cars. The mayor said feasibility studies on the project showed that it will cover its costs within five years. Speaking in an interview with Al Ra'i newspaper, Mr. Smadi said the Ministry of Tourism donated JD 15,000 to the municipality as a contribution to another tourism project which entails maintaining the town's streets, lighting the street between the town and the citadel and placing wooden benches on the road. He said the project is expected to cost JD 160,000. The mayor complained the Ajloun Municipality was suffering severe financial problems and called on the government to support it. He said the municipality's 1995 budget stands at JD 373,884, while the budget deficit stands at JD 159,000. (Al Ra'i)

* The Customs Department started on Monday collecting 10 per cent sales tax instead of the former seven per cent after the new sales tax law came into effect. Department Director Nathmi Abdullah said the increase in the tax is expected to raise the treasury's sales tax revenues by JD 35 million annually. (Al Ra'i)

* The number of cheques that bounced during the first seven months of this year totalled 263,800, worth JD 238.1 million, compared to 235,900 cheques worth JD 204.4 million during the same period of 1994. (Al Ra'i)

* The Jordanian Exporters Society will take part in an international trade fair which will be held in Ethiopia Nov. 24-Dec. 3. The participation in the fair, "Ethiopia: Towards the year 2000," aims to acquaint Jordanian exporters with the Ethiopian market and to increase trade exchange between Jordan and this African country. (Al Ra'i)

* Director of the Zarqa Agriculture Department Mohammad Ghweiri said there are more than one million dunums of arable lands in the Zarqa Governorate. He said 33 per cent of the Kingdom's poultry farms and 40 per cent of the cattle wealth are in Zarqa Governorate. (Al Ra'i)

Alumnus gives university \$55m

BALTIMORE (AP) — A 1964 graduate of Johns Hopkins University has remembered his alma mater with a \$55 million gift — the largest in university history.

Michael R. Bloomberg, founder and owner of Bloomberg Financial Markets, a New York-based financial information company, gave the money to be divided among the university's eight schools and library, Johns Hopkins announced Monday.

Some of the money will go towards a cancer treatment centre and a cancer research building. Part will go towards increasing the school's endowment.

The rest will go towards capital projects, such as renovating the library and constructing campus buildings.

"I'm personally improving the world's people's lives with my gift," Mr. Bloomberg said. "What better thing could I do? How better can I repay society for all the opportunities I've had?"

Mr. Bloomberg, 53, is the chair-elect of the university's board of trustees. He previously gave the university \$8 million, which went in part towards constructing the Bloomberg Centre for Physics and Astronomy.

'EU, U.S. would rather discuss economic space than free trade'

tan said in Luxembourg that

an action plan to reassess the U.S.-EU relationship ahead of the December summit had been "broadly and warmly welcomed" by European leaders.

"But areas of controversy remain," he said. Foreign ministers had split over two suggestions, the first to carry out a joint EU-U.S. study on the possibility of a free trade zone, the second to examine an acceleration or extension of tariff reductions already agreed during the Uruguay round.

als to examine a possible trans-Atlantic free trade zone and reexamine tariffs.

"We have, for all practical purposes, free trade in manufacturing," except for a very few areas, Mr. Meissner said.

"Both sides hesitate to talk about free trade areas," said Charles Meissner, assistant secretary for international economic policy at the Commerce Department.

His comments came after the 15-member European Union, meeting in Luxembourg, called for improved ties with the United States, but failed to endorse proposals

with countries such as

those existing between the United States and Asia and the United States and its immediate neighbours, Canada and Mexico.

"This is an anomaly. Agriculture is the hang up, and we all know that," Mr. Meissner said.

Tariffs between the two economic giants were very low and the depreciation of the dollar against the German mark had "dissipated the importance of tariffs elsewhere in terms of foreign exchange," he said.

But both sides wanted to discuss setting up an "economic space," all the more so because of the absence of an official economic pact such as

France, Spain and Italy.

U.S. and European businessmen will meet in Seville, Spain, on November 10 and 11 to draw up agenda proposals for the December 3 U.S.-European Union summit in Madrid on closer economic cooperation, Mr. Meissner said.

The introduction of free trade in farm products could not be realised without a radical overhaul of the EU's system of subsidising farm output under the common agricultural policy, which would be hugely controversial with countries such as

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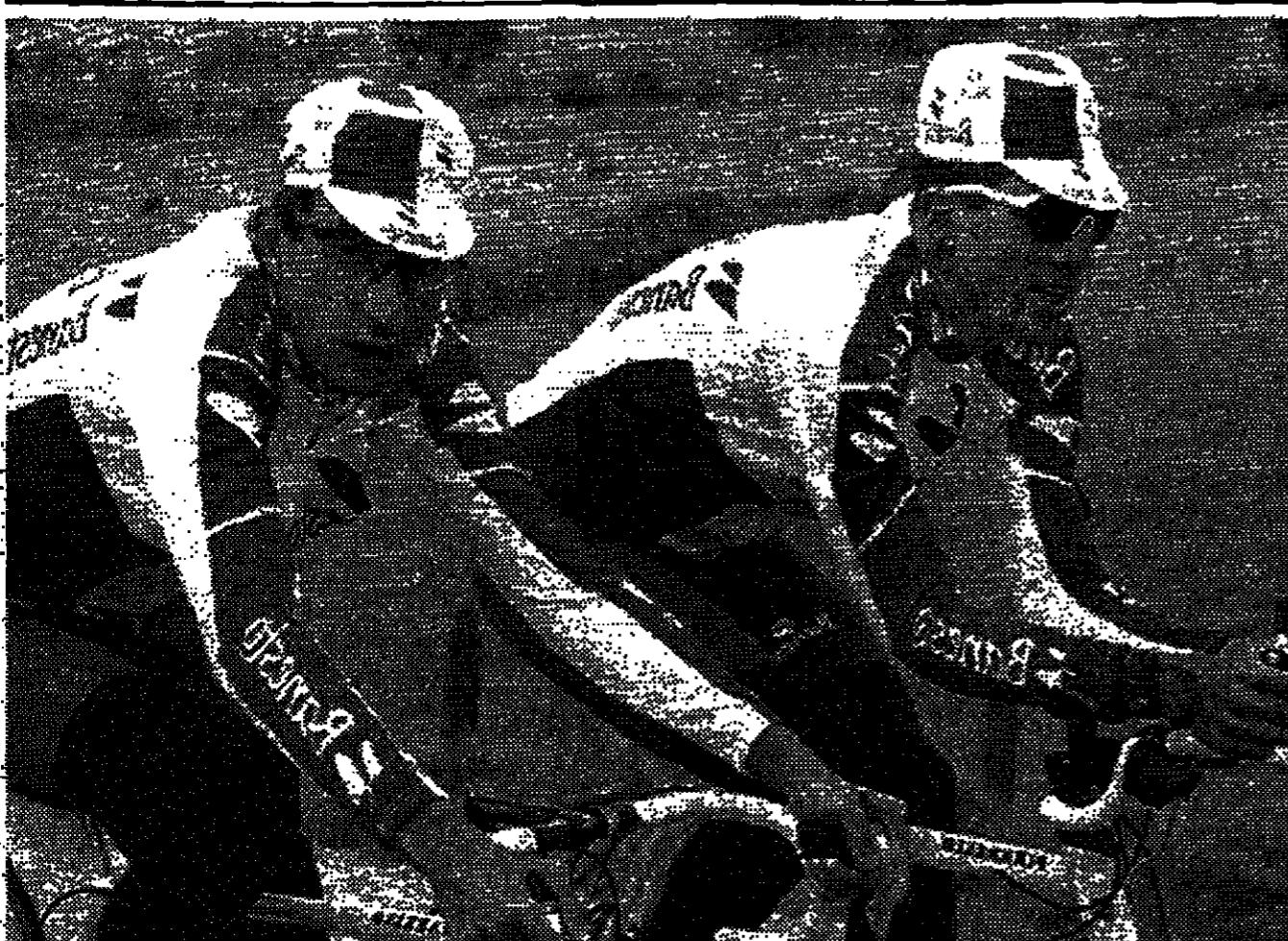
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Five-time Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain of Spain (R) and Spanish team-mate Marino Alonso train on the World Championship individual time-trial course between Paipa and Tunja October 2. Indurain is one of the favourites for the race (Reuters photo)

Indurain aims for elusive world title

TUNJA, Colombia (R) — Miguel Indurain, five times Tour de France champion, Wednesday takes the first of two more shots at winning an elusive World Cycling Championship title. The Spaniard, who thrives in the longer stage races, starts in Wednesday's time-trial and in Sunday's more prestigious road race. Despite his dominance of the Tour de France, the closest Indurain has ever come to winning a world title was two years ago in Norway when he was runner-up in

the road race behind American Lance Armstrong.

This time he is one of several serious contenders in events whose outcome is unpredictable because of the high altitude of the courses, around 2,600 metres above sea level.

Indurain told reporters he expected victory to go to the rider who could adapt best to the high altitude.

"Tactics will be the least important aspect at this world championship," he said. "In this competition there are no favourites.

Everyone is an unknown quantity."

Other leading contenders include Italy's Claudio Chiappucci, runner-up last year in Sicily behind Frenchman Luc Leblanc, and Lithuania's Arturas Kasputis. But enthusiastic home fans have high hopes of celebrating a first Colombian victory.

Colombian riders have enjoyed success in major events, especially in the mountain stages of tours, and they are used to competing at high altitude.

Oliverio Rincon, who won

the longest stage of this year's Giro d'Italia and took fifth place overall, and Alvaro Mejia are Colombia's top hopes.

Wednesday's time-trial will be held on an undulating route which runs from the town of Paipa to the provincial capital of Tunja, 42 kilometres away.

Sunday's road race will be staged on a circuit near the town of Duitama.

The first half of the world championships, the track events, finished Saturday in Bogota.

United boost profits despite traumatic season

LONDON (R) — Manchester United Tuesday reported annual profits almost doubled to £20 million (\$31.7 million) despite a traumatic 1994-95 season in which the club failed to win a major trophy.

United increased profit before transfer fees and taxation by 42 per cent to £16.3 million (\$25.8 million) and enjoyed net income on player transfers of £3.7 million (\$5.9 million) in the year to July 31, 1995.

Remarkably, turnover from the club's successful merchandising division increased 65 per cent to a staggering £23.5 million (\$37.3 million), outstripping gate receipts.

The strong overall performance came in a season when United missed out on the major prizes the pitch, finishing as runners-up in the Premier League and the FA Cup.

The club's reputation was also tarnished by Eric Cantona's notorious "kung-fu" attack on an abusive Crystal Palace fan, which earned the Frenchman an eight-month ban from the game.

United doubled their transfer fee reserve to £8 million (\$12.7 million) and Chief Executive Martin Edwards said the club were ready to spend to strengthen their squad.

"If the team is not performing well later in the season then it may be that we will want to enter the mar-

ket," Edwards said. "We really don't know whether we will have to use it (the reserve) but that's what it is there for," he added.

United fans have been upset by the recent sales of stars Paul Ince to Italy's Internazionale, Mark Hughes to Chelsea and Andrei Kanchelski to Everton.

Edwards said revenue this year would be hit by rebuilding work on the north stand which has temporarily cut capacity at the Old Trafford Stadium.

Work is scheduled for completion next May and will enable Old Trafford to house 55,000 spectators.

The capacity was 44,000 in 1994-95 when ticket and programme sales rose 10 per cent to £19.6 million (\$31.1 million).

Edwards said that United's first round elimination from the UEFA Cup last week at the hands of Russia's Rotor Volgograd should not have a great impact financially.

"We will obviously miss out on TV income. But we have never budgeted for cup success. Our major thrust must be to win a domestic competition," Edwards said.

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Monday & Wednesday
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Time : 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
or 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
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The registration will end on 07/10/1995 and the courses will start on 08/10/1995 till 16/12/1995

For more information, please contact F.C.C.
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Taiwan authorities to rule on Magic Johnson

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's health authorities are deciding whether to allow basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson onto the island.

Johnson retired in 1991 after contracting HIV, the virus which causes AIDS, although he later returned to basketball.

The American has been invited by an insurance company in Taiwan to take part in two special games at the end of the month.

But Taiwan has a law requiring HIV-positive foreigners to leave the country.

"We are studying very carefully Magic Johnson's case from the basis of related regulations," an official at the cabinet's department of health said by telephone.

"So far we have not made any decision," he added.

After his retirement in 1991, Johnson returned to

play in the 1992 NBA All-Star game and the 1992 Barcelona Olympics as a member of the U.S. "Dream Team" which won the gold medal.

Johnson, now 36, announced his intention to return to the NBA prior to the 1992-93 season but changed his mind when several prominent players expressed reservations about sharing the court with an HIV-positive player.

In July this year, Johnson was reported to be considering making a comeback with the Los Angeles Lakers, who he led to five NBA championships. Johnson is the team's vice-president and part owner.

But two weeks later he said he had realised his future was "in business and not playing in the NBA."

"We looked at the international calendar and we saw some interesting gaps in the summer months," he said.

Mansell will not quit, to announce plans soon

LONDON (AP) — Nigel Mansell is considering a return to Formula One or Indy cars next season.

"Formula One is the pinnacle of motor sport and if I'm going to drive competitively again, I'd like to look at that formula before looking at anything else," Mansell said Monday.

"Anything is possible, and at the moment there is greater opportunity in America than there is in Formula One," he added.

"One thing is for sure ... We're not retiring."

Mansell maintained he's not too old at 41.

"Motor racing is a young man's sport and I still think I'm young enough to compete and win and go for another world championship," he said. "Whether I'm given that opportunity to try and achieve that again

remains to be seen."

It's been a difficult couple of years for Mansell since he became the first driver to win the Formula One (1992) and Indy Car (1993) titles in consecutive years.

"As you can see, I'm quite slim and quite fit," Mansell joked at the launch of his autobiography "The People's Champion."

Mansell said he has declined offers with several lower-ranking Formula One teams. He admitted the top teams seemed to have their driving teams set for next season.

"If I just wanted to accept a drive I could have had five different drives since April," he said. "But I want to drive where I feel I can compete and win. And we all know in Formula One there are only two or three drives that really have a chance to win."

Mansell lamented not being teamed this year at the Spanish Grand Prix and got out.

That was the end of Mansell's aborted season with McLaren and many assumed his career was over.

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Williams with fellow Briton Damon Hill. He suggested that Michael Schumacher, who virtually clinched the championship with his victory Sunday in the European Grand Prix, would have had a more difficult time if he had been around.

"There's no question ... in a perfect world, hindsight being 20-20, I wish my contract had been taken by the Williams team this year. It would have been nice to partner Damon and I think the possibilities for the world championship could have been different," he said.

"Having said that, I think Michael has done an outstanding job this season. There's no question at the moment he's the class of the field," Mansell added.

Sheikh Mohammed dumps trainer who 'misled' him on condition of horse

LONDON (AFP) — Sheikh Mohammad, the nine-time champion owner, split from his successful partnership with trainer Henry Cecil Tuesday after claims he had been "misled" on a horse's fitness.

The break resulted from an unrevealed injury to two-year-old Mark of Esteem who left Cecil's stable in September for Dubai.

It ended one of racing's most successful partnerships in the last decade.

Racing manager Anthony Stroud read a statement on behalf of Mohammad, explaining why he had removed his 40 horses from Cecil's stable.

Stroud said:

"A complete physical was carried out on Mark of Esteem which discovered that he had a knee condition that could require surgery."

"This injury occurred during or after his race at

Goodwood. It is a degenerative condition of his knee resulting in acute soreness.

"Sheikh Mohammad was not informed about the problem and neither was Anthony Stroud until the day of the Royal Lodge Stakes when Henry Cecil admitted that Mark of Esteem had a knee problem, displaying stiffness to his gait."

"Sheikh Mohammad expressed considerable disappointment over this matter because the trainer had not kept him informed about all the facts relating to the colt and had misled him."

Cecil said:

"Obviously this is a knock but I feel that under these circumstances it is probably for the best as his first priority is Dubai and mine is my family, my staff, my other owners and, as ever, to win as many races as possible."

Polish teams confused about which is home field for Olimpia

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — One of Poland's first-division soccer teams could face exclusion from the league if it again fails to show up for a game at home, a soccer union spokesman said on Monday.

However, Olimpia-Lechia, formed earlier this year by the first-division Olimpia Poznan and the third-division Lechia Gdansk, is ready to play at what it considers its home field in Gdansk.

"They will be punished again," Andrzej Karczewski, spokesman for the Polish Soccer Union, told the Associated Press.

Most teams show up in Gdansk without complaints,

but some travel to the western city of Poznan, about 250 kilometers southwest of Gdansk, where Olimpia's old field is under renovation.

Olimpia-Lechia has already lost one game by default and faces another such decision for not playing against Lech Poznan on Sunday.

The spokesman said Olimpia's and Lechia's merger so far has failed to win approval of soccer authorities and thus the team should treat its old field as its home.

Maradona is happy

Buenos Aires (AFP) — Diego Maradona has declared himself "satisfied and happy" with his footballing comeback, on his return from Boca Juniors' exhibition match against South Korea.

Boca won Saturday's game in Seoul 2-1 with Maradona, whose corner set up his team's first goal, showing that his skills had not deserted him after a 15-month drugs ban.

"Boca's main objective is the championship," he said at Ezeiza airport on Monday evening. "And we must be well-prepared and more together than everyone else if we're going to win it."

Maradona said that playing again "was marvellous. I was hoping I'd be able to handle all the running around and I succeeded. I never thought I'd feel so comfortable with the ball as I did."

The Argentine was banned by FIFA after testing positive for the stimulant ephedrine at last year's World Cup.

He said a ruling will be made early next week.

Karczewski said under Polish league regulations, a team losing three times by default gets excluded from the competition.

The spokesman said Olimpia's and Lechia's merger so far has failed to win approval of soccer authorities and thus the team should treat its old field as its home.



CINEMA

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Liam Neeson & Jessica Lange... in

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Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA

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PLAZA

Sandra Bullock & Bill Pullman in

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Show: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA

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Adel Imam & Yusra

Birds of the Darkness

(Arabic)

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Concord "2"

Police Academy

"MISSION TO MOSCOW"

Shows: 4, 6, 8, 10

AMMOUN THEATRE

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team," Mansell added.

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Opening lead: Six of a
Don't always believe the good
things that seem to be happening to
you. Declarer learned that and lesson
on this deal from the Master
Mixed Teams at the recent Summer
North American Championships in
San Diego.

The final contract was the same
at most of the tables in the event.
With the queen of hearts undeclared,
most declarers emerged with 10
tricks after spades were led, or 11 if
the defense slipped — except at the
table where Mary Oshing of Mem-
phis held the East cards.

At that table West led a low
spade and declarer correctly or not
allowed East's ten to hold. Had
East returned a spade, a routine
choice at other tables, the defenders
would have collected three tricks in
the suit whether declarer covered or
ducked. Since declarer could not
afford to have East gain the lead,
Perdue was entered with the
diamonds and two hearths finesse
allowed declarer to come home with
an overtrick.

Mary Oshing, however, elected to
shift to a diamond at trick two.
Declarer won in hand and with
the threat of the spade suit in check for
the moment, decided to run the
ace of clubs. East won with the
king and confidently led a club to the ten.
East's jack was a shattering
blow, because declarer was now
cut off from four good clubs in dummy
as well as the ace of diamonds.

A spade finesse on the ace and a spade
lead on the fifth diamond then
South could do no better than win
and return a spade, so the defense
ended up with four spade tricks and
two clubs.

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Oh Peace!
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ton call 625155



China's Qiao Ya performs on the horse in the vault during compulsory in the women's team competition at the World Gymnastics Championships in Saba October 3. China finished with a total of 190.819 points on the event (Reuters photo)

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH
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CAVEAT EMPTOR!

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	4 A	1 A	2 S
Pass	4 K	1 A	2 S
Pass	4 A K 65	4 A Q 10 65	4 A Q 10 74
WEST	4 A K 6	4 Q 5 4 3	4 Q 5 4 3
Pass	4 V 2	4 Q 5 4 3	4 Q 5 4 3
Pass	4 10 9 7 4 2	4 Q 5 4 3	4 Q 5 4 3
Pass	4 6 7 4	4 K J	4 K J

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1 A	1 A	2 S
Pass	3 A	Pass	3 N
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Six of a

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A spade finesse on the ace and a spade
lead on the fifth diamond then
South could do no better than win
and return a spade, so the defense
ended up with four spade tricks and
two clubs.

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Romania leads in World Gymnastics
Championships as China complains

SABA, Japan (AP) — Defending champion Romania stamped its mark on the World Gymnastics Championships Tuesday with near-flawless displays of twisting and tumbling that knocked the women's team medal and the 36 qualifiers for the individual all-around final.

Graceful and controlled on the floor and beam, explosive and crisp on the vault and bars, Romania scored 192.570 in compulsory exercises, eclipsing the 191.722 points that had given the U.S. team the opening day lead Monday.

Gina Gogean's score of 38.799 was the highest individual total of the nine-day tournament so far and contained a 9.875 on the floor, the highest single mark. She edged 1993 and 1994 world champion Shannon Miller of the United States, who scored 38.699, into second place in individual qualifying.

Lavinia Milosovici, the 1994 world silver medalist, scored 38.650 and stood fourth overall. Romania's delegation head, Octavian Bellu, said his team had set a standard that Russia, another favorite, would have trouble beating.

"It's like going on Everest, every step is more difficult," he said.

Once again the backbone

Russia, the 1994 bronze medalist, and nine other teams compete in compulsories Wednesday, followed by optional exercises over the next three days to decide the women's team medal and the 36 qualifiers for the individual all-around final.

China complained publicly again about judging after its team of veterans and newcomers mixed brilliance with mistakes. The Chinese stood just behind the United States with 190.819 points.

Coach Lu Shanzen claimed at a news conference that his team outperformed America's women but scored less and "did not get the place that they should have."

China already had complained Monday that its men were judged unfairly.

China included three largely untested gymnasts in its squad to groom them for next year's Olympics. The top 12 teams at this championship qualify for the Atlanta Games.

Meng Fei, a 14-year-old making her debut at a major world competition, and Mao Yanling, 15, both fell on the uneven bars.

Meng also fell mounting the beam.

Brown's (3-2) in it:

— Christie pulled a 22-yard field goal attempt wide to the left early in the fourth quarter, only the third miss of his career from inside 30 yards.

— Christie blew an extra-point try after Reed's TD reception.

— Kelly had the ball knocked out of his hand deep in his own territory in the third quarter, setting up the third of Matt Stover's four field goals.

— But after Derrick Alexander's touchdown on a 69-yard punt return momentarily electrified the sellout crowd of 76,211, the game bogged down into a field goal contest.

include four top contenders — Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Germany, all in 1994's top five, behind China.

The team champion, and the 36 individuals who qualify for the all-around final, will be decided Friday after optional exercises.

The Koreans scored 277.661 in the compulsories, edging ahead of France's 277.225 but well behind Japan's 282.060 and China's 282.048. The United States has 280.336.

Among other nations in action Tuesday, Hungary moved into ninth place, Switzerland 11th, Australia 12th and the Czech Republic 13th.

South Korea's Lee stood eighth in individual qualifying with 56.287 points. Hungary's Zoltan Supola moved into ninth with 56.275.

Australia's Andrei Kratsov scored the best men's mark of the day, a 9.612 on the horizontal bar, but stood 24th overall at 55.312 after a low 8.700 in the floor exercise.

The leaders remained Li Xiaoshuang of China at 56.987 and Japan's Hikaru Tamaka at 56.800. Tamaka has the highest men's mark so far, a 9.725 on the bar. American John Roethlisberger stood fifth at 56.500.

Buffalo Bills beat Cleveland Browns 22-19

American football

CLEVELAND (AP) — It took Steve Christie four tries, but he finally got it right.

After missing a chip-shot field goal, an extra point and his first try at the winning kick, Christie made a 33-yard field goal with five seconds to play Monday night that gave the Buffalo Bills a 22-19 victory over the Cleveland Browns.

The Browns called the timeout simply to give Christie a few more seconds to think about the kick.

"The situation was to ice the kicker," coach Bill Belichick said. "We called the timeout well before the ball was even snapped. I guess they didn't hear it because of the crowd noise."

Two familiar names, Jim

things went wrong, our team never caved," coach Marv Levy said. "It was a very atypical day for Steve Christie. He's very dependable, but he just had one of those days. But he made the one that counted."

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"The situation was to ice the kicker," coach Bill Belichick said. "We called the timeout well before the ball was even snapped. I guess they didn't hear it because of the crowd noise."

Two familiar names, Jim

Kelly and Thurman Thomas, combined to set up the winning kick. Starting from their own 26 with 3:38 to go, Kelly hit Russell Copeland with a 20-yard pass that got the ball near midfield, and Thomas then carried four times for 33 yards.

Kelly was 27 of 34 for 256 yards with two touchdowns and one interception. Andre Reed caught nine of them for 97 yards, including a 41-yard scoring reception with 6:30 to play.

Buffalo (3-1) ran up 406 yards of total offense and could have put the game away earlier, but several costly mistakes kept the

Browns (3-2) in it:

— Christie pulled a 22-yard field goal attempt wide to the left early in the fourth quarter, only the third miss of his career from inside 30 yards.

— Christie blew an extra-point try after Reed's TD reception.

— Kelly had the ball knocked out of his hand deep in his own territory in the third quarter, setting up the third of Matt Stover's four field goals.

— But after Derrick Alexander's touchdown on a 69-yard punt return momentarily electrified the sellout crowd of 76,211, the game bogged down into a field goal contest.

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France on defensive, aims for discretion in Tahiti

Combined Agency dispatches

FRANCE, fighting continued local and global condemnation of its latest nuclear test, was trying to stay discreet in its South Pacific territory on Tuesday to avoid fresh violence, officials said.

"In order not to put oil on the fire we want to remain very discreet," the chief of gendarmerie forces, Colonel Jean-Jacques Plante, told Reuters in Tahiti's capital.

As Papeete awoke to its normal gridlock traffic, the city was calm, but gendarmes, in their distinctive blue trucks and cars, cruised the streets. Over 800 gendarmes are deployed in the capital, most of them staying in hotels around town.

A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a courthouse in the city on Sunday Tahiti time, but no one was hurt (Tahiti is behind the international dateline). The firebomb was a sign that protests may take the form of terrorism instead of street riots.

A youth speeding by on a motorbike threw the Molotov cocktail at the door of the courthouse hours after France detonated a nuclear blast measured at about 100 kilotonnes at Fangataufa atoll.

France tripled its contingent of riot police in Tahiti to more than 720 in the days before its second nuclear test. Along with regular police, more than 1,000 officers are on duty in Papeete alone.

This show of force has deterred a repeat of anti-

nuclear and pro-independence demonstrations that spiraled into riots, looting and arson after the first nuclear blast on Mururoa atoll on Sept. 5.

The riots left part of the international airport terminal burned out, and dozens of downtown shops and buildings were looted and burned. More than 200 people were jailed.

Some police were stripped of their weapons during the riot, leading to concern that renewed violence could take the form of sniping or other forms of urban terrorism.

At the United Nations in New York, France again struck a defiant note, describing the arguments used to condemn its disputed testing programme as "unfounded, unfair and mean."

It said the South Pacific Forum's decision to suspend France as a dialogue partner was "particularly unpleasant".

In announcing the forum's decision to the U.N. General Assembly, the grouping's chair, Papua New Guinea, said France had shown total disregard for regional opposition to its test series, the first since Paris declared a moratorium in 1992.

"I am absolutely dismayed at France's continuing disregard of the South Pacific Forum and the international community's outrage at the French government's arrogance in detonating yet another nuclear bomb," Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister Julius Chan said in a statement issued after his

U.N. address. He also commented on the possibility of the forum's member states breaking bilateral ties with Paris. So far only the tiny island nations of Nauru and Kiribati have suspended relations.

"I can sense that individual countries will begin to view the bilateral relations with France and that will have an effect on trade and other areas of cooperation with France," Mr. Chan told Australian Radio.

But Australia, one of the region's fiercest critics of French testing, immediately rejected suggestions that Canberra suspend ties with Paris.

"Engagement is the answer," Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating told reporters in the southern city of Adelaide.

Regional analysts said

France's influence as a major aid donor to the region meant it was unlikely many small island nations would follow the example of Nauru and Kiribati.

Japan, one of the region's two biggest aid donors along with Australia, said on Tuesday it would send a special envoy to the United Nations next week to seek more support for a proposed resolution calling for an immediate halt to nuclear testing.

Yoshio Hatano, a former Japanese ambassador to the world body, will travel to New York on Sunday to start rallying support among delegates from other countries, a foreign ministry spokesman said in Tokyo.

ASSASSINATION BID:

The shattered remains of the car of Macedonian President Gligorov after a bomb exploded in central Skopje on Tuesday, killing the driver and wounding the president in an assassination attempt which coincided with his government's moves to mend fences with neighbouring Serbia and Greece (see page one) (AFP photo)

'Joint projects needed to cement M.E. peace'

LIMASSOL (AP) — The Middle East peace process will be consolidated only after Arabs and Israelis conclude joint development projects, speakers from both sides said during an energy conference Tuesday.

Former Jordanian Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber said it was imperative to close the huge disparity in per capita income between Israelis and Palestinians.

He said an Israeli's annual income averaged \$14,000 a year, a Palestinian's a scant \$1,000.

As foreign minister, Dr. Abu Jaber headed a joint Jordanian-Palestinian team to the Arab-Israeli peace talks when they began in Madrid in October 1991.

"Four years later, the region is still not at peace, leaving much room for pessimism," he cautioned.

"Israel has to take a quantum leap into redefining its security, not in military terms alone, and thus must understand that for the peace to be durable, it has to be both honorable and comprehensive," he added.

Dr. Abu Jaber called on the United States, Japan and the European Union (EU) states to support the process

through economic assistance. He said that "for decades the carrot of peace dangled promising development and investment designed to right the conflict-caused economic disparities..."

"It is only through a massive and serious effort that the region can extricate itself from the terribly strong web of under-development in which it has been caught.

"The prospects depend not only on local and regional factories but on offshore effort as well ... yet no marshall-like plan seems to be in the offing," he said.

The conference, organised by the Cyprus-based Arab Press Service (APS), is debating Middle East energy strategy to the year 2008.

"Real peace will come only after we conclude such joint projects as oil pipelines and energy networks linking all the states in the region," APS Chairman Pierre Shammas told the 80 senior oil executives from 30 countries attending the annual conference.

Amos Ron, former director-general of Israel's energy ministry, said that Israel was proceeding with

(Continued on page 7)

Algerian newspaper editor gunned down

PARIS (Agencies) — The editor of Algeria's main Arabic language newspaper was shot dead on Tuesday morning in central Algiers, an Algerian official statement said.

Omar Ouartilan, 36-year-old editor of the Arabic daily Al Khabar, was shot in Algiers near a press complex housing several newspaper offices, including Al Khabar, said the statement carried by the Algerian news agency APS.

This is the third murder of a newspaper editor in Algeria's four years of civil strife pitting guerrillas against government forces; previous victims included the editors of the Al Mujahid and LF Matin newspapers.

According to a colleague of Quartilan's gunmen struck when he was leaving his home in the belcourt suburb of Algiers.

The official statement did not say who had killed Quartilan, the fifth journalist shot dead over the last month.

The authorities blamed militants for the murder of about 50 journalists and media workers since June 1993 when guerrillas threatened reporters with

death for their alleged siding with the army-backed government side.

Most of Algeria's editors live in a heavily guarded compound near Algiers. Several journalists have been gunned down while leaving it to visit parents or children.

Algeria's main newspaper, including Al Khabar, staged a three-day strike last month to protest against the "systematic slaughter" of journalists.

Seven Algeria militants were convicted by a Belgian court on Tuesday of planning guerrilla attacks but their presumed leader, Ahmad Zaoui, and four others were acquitted.

Mr. Zaoui and his co-accused, all alleged members of Algeria's fundamentalist Armed Islamic Group (GIA), had been charged with offences ranging from forming a gang, possession of arms and explosives, forgery and receiving stolen goods.

In acquitting Mr. Zaoui, a former Algerian university professor, court president Claire de Gryse said in her 45-minute ruling that in the absence of clear material proof there was a doubt about this guilt.

COLUMN 10

Industrialist pledges \$100 m to fight cancer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An industrialist who has been battling cancer has announced that his family will donate a record \$100 million to research the disease. The gift by Jon M. Huntsman Sr. and his family is the largest financial contribution ever to medical research and the second-largest cash gift in the history of American higher education, according to the Almanac of Higher Education. Pledges gathered by Mr. Huntsman will add an additional \$51 million to the total. Huntsman said Monday morning that he was unaware until last week how his donation ranks. "We weren't trying to break any records or establish any goal. We were just trying to do our part," said Mr. Huntsman, who oversees a worldwide petrochemical conglomerate bearing his name, based in Salt Lake City. The money will go to researchers at the University of Utah's Huntsman Cancer Institute, established in 1993 with a \$20 million pledge from the Huntsman family. Even before that, the university had about 250 scientists working on grants from the National Cancer Institute. The Huntsmans had hoped to build on their original pledge by raising \$100 million. They didn't make that goal, but did manage to secure \$51 million in pledges from outside sources, including \$15 million from the British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoWellcome, part of which goes to Duke University in North Carolina.

Kirov Ballet director, choreographer arrested for bribes

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) — The director and the chief choreographer of the world-famous Kirov Ballet have been arrested for allegedly taking bribes totalling millions of dollars, officials said. Anatoly Malkov, the director of the 212-year-old theatre, was arrested in his office Friday while accepting a \$10,000 bribe from a Canadian impresario for the right to organise the company's foreign tour. The businessman had tipped the police, which marked the money intended for the bribe, said an official with St. Petersburg prosecutor's office, who asked not to be identified. Police found \$150,000 in cash during the search in Mr. Malkov's office, and called an audit in the theatre. Russia's Independent Television showed neat stacks of bank-wrapped \$100 bills piled on Mr. Malkov's table. Oleg Vinogradov, the ballet's chief choreographer for the last 18 years, was also arrested over the weekend. The case appeared to be one of the most scandalous instances of bribery in recent years, although corruption has become rampant after the Soviet collapse, fuelled by the economic chaos, backward legislation and police weakness.

Friday

Friday